CHINA *monthly* REVIEW

密勒氏
評論報

THE FIRST THREE YEARS

C. Y. W. MENG

★

NEW DEAL FOR MINORITIES

★

TIENSUEI TO SHANGHAI

WALTER ILLSLEY

October 1952

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Single Copy	Rs. 1

MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS TO:

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China Monthly Review

(J. B. Powell, Editor & Publisher 1918-1947)

Volume 123 **Number 4**

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密勒氏
評論報

October 1952

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Cable Address "Reviewing" Shanghai
Telephone: 14772

Published at 160 Yenan Road (Eastern), Shanghai (0) China, by China Monthly Review Publishing Company. Printed by Millington Limited, 117 Hongkong Road, Shanghai, China.

LETTERS

From the People

Comments from readers on current topics are cordially invited: their opinions, however, do not necessarily represent the views of the *China Monthly Review*.

TRIP TO LHASA

To the Editor:

I haven't been able to send you any articles all these months. However, now that I am getting used to the life and climate in Lhasa I hope to write you some of my experiences.

Our group left Peking early last December, but we spent three weeks in a small town southwest of Sining in Chinghai province before starting on the trip to Tibet. All of us had to be fully equipped to take such an arduous journey, especially in mid-winter.

We went by bus from Sining to Hsiangteh, but this is a difficult trip since there are many rivers and streams to cross, and the weather was unusually cold and terribly windy. From Hsiangteh to Lhasa we rode horseback. I had had no previous experience in that and it was only toward the end of the 40 days' journey that I was able to ride without too much difficulty or discomfort. For two months throughout the whole trip we didn't see a single plant, except the boundless yellow grass, nor a single soul. The road was as rough as it could be and the wind was our main enemy. Fortunately we did not encounter any large snowfall, which we had expected.

I have much to write about but my work keeps me very busy. However, I will be writing you again soon and please send me all the recent issues of the **Review**.

P. Y. WANG

Lhasa, Tibet

SEEING CHINA

To the Editor:

A few nights ago I saw a film about new China in a neighborhood theater near the Chinese quarter. The film should have been displayed in one of the large downtown houses, where it would certainly have been a great success. As it was, the theater was packed; and the Jane Russell picture across the street seemed to be deserted that night.

How much prejudice, created by lies in our newspapers, could be dispelled if such pictures were widely seen. The picture showed much of the landscape and many of the great cities of China. It gave us a look at Shanghai and Peking,

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with shouting, singing crowds packing the streets. We saw the people working with primitive tools on the great Huai River flood prevention and they did not look like some of the WPA workers I used to see. The Chinese workers were cheerful and busy for they were rebuilding their own country for their own good.

The San Francisco press remained ignorant of this film—no notices at all.

LOUISE H. HORR

San Francisco

A New Chengtu

To the Editor:

If a person left Chengtu before the liberation, he would hardly recognize the city today. The many construction projects have given Chengtu, capital of Szechuen province, a new look.

A grand People's Square which can accommodate about 300,000 people was recently built in the front of the old Imperial Palace, and this year's May Day celebration was held there.

Most streets in the city have been widened and resurfaced, and a new one has been constructed. Sewage systems throughout the city have been repaired and numerous small streams dredged. As a result, no flood has occurred in the city since liberation.

Central Park (now renamed the Workers' Cultural Palace) was formerly a rendezvous for the city's blackmarketeers and prostitutes. After liberation, the park was completely reconstructed and a new large building put up for cultural activities.

In the old days, the Chi Ming Electricity Company suspended service once every three days, but today it supplies electricity without intermission. Excellent water is provided by the city's water works. In addition, bus services are now available in Chengtu at low prices. For instance, a trip from the center of the city to the station, a distance of 5.6 miles, is less than 10 cents in terms of US money.

To keep abreast of current events, nearly all residents in the city have organized themselves into small study or newspaper reading groups, and show a keen interest in politics. The illiterate are attending free night schools.

A new moral standard has been established among the residents and businessmen in Chengtu as a result of the campaigns against corruption and waste. Today in Chengtu one hardly ever sees people quarrel or fight on the streets or in public places. If one starts, the on-lookers help in analyzing the reason for the quarrel and it usually ends in mutual apologies.

The people in Chengtu are looking forward with confidence to the bright future which they are striving for.

CHEN CHU-LIANG

Chengtu, Szechuen

NEW SHAMEEN

To the Editor:

In the southern part of Canton, beside the Pearl River, lies the former foreign concession of Shameen. This site is very beautiful with artistic walks and gardens.

Formerly this was only for the foreigners and their compradore friends. Guards were kept at the entrance to prevent Chinese from going there. However, every Chinese knows about Shameen, which was the site of the Shage Incident in June 1925 when British and French troops fired on

READERS' QUESTIONS

A NUMBER of readers abroad have written to the Review in past months asking specific questions about conditions in new China. We welcome these inquiries for they give us some idea of what readers are interested in knowing. Here are some of the questions asked in recent letters from foreign readers.

* * *

QUESTION: After land reform, who really owns the land? Does the individual farmer actually have title to his land or does the state retain ownership, letting the farmer make use of it? If the farmer owns the land, can he sell it? **M.I.L., Massachusetts, USA.**

ANSWER: The government issued title deeds to the individual peasants during land reform. The right of a farmer to buy, sell or rent out land freely is stated in the Agrarian Reform Law. In actual practice, the trend is toward mutual aid teams and cooperative farming rather than large private farms. Since the farmers are able to make substantial improvements in their agricultural production and standard of living by joining with their neighbors to work together in mutual aid teams during the busy seasons, and in many cases all year around, there are very few interested in becoming hired hands for wealthier farmers.

* * *

QUESTION: When I left Shanghai in the summer of 1948, the city was filled with refugees, beggars and unemployed workers. At that time, many people were fleeing the countryside to take refuge in the city and a lot of the factories had come to a standstill. The whole place was such a mess it was students and workers who were demonstrating in Shage against the May 30 Incident. Two hundred casualties resulted. A monument has been erected on Shameen to the martyrs.

Shameen now belongs to the people and every day many go there to enjoy the scenery. Part of the grounds are used as a sports field for the Young Pioneers and other youth. This former restricted area of the foreigners is now being enjoyed by all the people of Canton.

YEN CHOW-NAN

Canton

---

hard for me to imagine how it could get back on its feet. I've been following the articles in the *Review* on Shanghai with great interest, and it was good news to hear that something was done for the beggars and refugees. However, I'm wondering if there's still the large number of unemployed and what measures are taken to help them.—**R.A.S., Australia**

ANSWER: There is still unemployment in Shanghai and the other large cities, but the chaotic situation before liberation when the city was flooded with refugees and beggars, and when factory workers were paid off with goods and were hawking them on the streets, is very much of bygone days.

Most of the factories are working at full capacity and new factories are opening. This along with the government-sponsored training programs for technical workers and the plan for helping workers resettle in newly developed areas has greatly alleviated the unemployment problem.

For trained personnel, such as teachers, medical workers, technicians in factories and so on, there are unlimited job opportunities. There were 10 jobs waiting for each college graduate last year.

At present the number of unemployed, which is around 3,000,000, is the smallest in the country's history. However, the problem continues to receive serious consideration from all levels of the government. A recent directive of the Government Administrative Council calls for expanding the program of job training and for setting up committees in each of the large administrative regions to allocate the manpower properly, so that unemployment will soon become a thing of the past.

* * *

QUESTION: I recently attended a lecture by a missionary who had returned from China in 1951. He reported that English can no longer be used in any official correspondence and that students are not allowed to study English. He fur-

REAL HEROES

To the Editor:

An interesting item was sent to me from Puerto Rico where soldiers are being forced to go to Korea. My friend wrote:

"Twenty Puerto Rican soldiers of some 300 on the transport ship 'Henry Gibbons' threw themselves into the bay of San Juan when they were refused permission to go ashore or see their families waiting on the docks.

"The mayor of San Juan, who had tried to glorify the role of these soldiers being forcibly sent to Korea, was nearly struck by a camera hurled by one of the infuriated soldiers. The names of Governor Munoz and Commissioner Fernos, who shamelessly offered 75,000 Puerto Rican youths as cannon fodder for the US, were hooted and cursed. Many hundreds of relatives and friends were left sobbing on the docks as the ship drew anchor and departed, once the 20 real heroes had been captured and returned for punishment.

"Apparently the military authorities had intended permitting visits with the families, but sensing the probability of acts of desperation and mass desertion, changed their minds. Significantly, although the press was present and many photos were taken of all the dramatic scenes, not one was printed, and the newspaper reports of the ship's visit omitted the above facts."

OLGA RUESCH

Peking

ther said that the "drive" against use of English was so widespread that Chinese who know English dare not speak it or read English-language publications I'm wondering if this is the case for it seems like a very short-sighted policy to me.
A.T., London

ANSWER: It is true that neither English nor any other foreign language can be used in official correspondence. That is, if foreign residents in China write a letter to any of the government agencies, it must be in Chinese. This, of course, is the way all sovereign governments act, but it is a very marked change for foreigners in China who through the years of imperialist rule were accustomed to dealing with the toadying Kuomintang which used English as a semi-official language.

It is not true that English is frowned on in the schools and universities. English still remains the predominant foreign language being taught in both the middle schools and higher schools. A student graduating from college must have a reading knowledge of one foreign language; and English and Russian are the main ones taught, though some universities have courses in German, French and Japanese. As for Chinese being "afraid" to speak or read English, the *Review* still has a substantial following among Chinese throughout the country.

The Month in Review

- *Investigate Germ Warfare*
- *Who's Scuttling Sino-British Trade?*

Investigate Germ Warfare

SINCE the launching of undeclared germ warfare by the United States against Korea and China both the Korean and Chinese governments have repeatedly demanded that the Americans and the United Nations agree to an impartial investigation. The only conditions attached to these proposals have been stipulations that Korean and Chinese representatives must participate in the investigation and that the investigating body be a truly independent one and not a tool of the US.

Despite the considerable evidence already collected, Washington has steadfastly denied the germ war charges and tried to shrug them off as propaganda. In line with this policy the US has done its best to make something out of China's unwillingness to accept either the International Committee of the Red Cross or the World Health Organization (WHO), both of whom have been proposed by America, as impartial investigators.

The so-called International Committee of the Red Cross is made up mainly of Swiss businessmen who double as Red Cross representatives in their spare time. Financed by grants from Red Cross member governments, the largest contributor being the US, its history is hardly that of a truly neutral international body. In Shanghai during World War II, for instance, its businessmen members continued doing business as usual under

Japanese occupation. Allied internees who had personal experience with the Red Cross charged that these representatives placed their business interests first, which prevented them from carrying out impartial investigation.

When the fact-finding commission of the Women's International Democratic Federation sent its report on atrocities committed by US and Syngman Rhee forces in Korea to the "International Committee," that body curtly replied that it did not have authority to investigate violations of international law. Now, however, after Washington has named it as America's nominee to carry out an investigation, the "International Committee" has said nothing about its "lack of authority."

The "International Committee's" record on the Koje Island prison camps, where hundreds of Korean and Chinese POW's have been killed and maimed by their American guards, will certainly not stand examination. Actually a representative of the "International Committee" did inspect the Koje Island camp at the time of the first incident—when 69 POW's were killed and 142 wounded. The report, which had to reflect unfavorably on the Americans, was all but suppressed by the Committee which published it some time later and only in one of its French-language bulletins. At no time did the Committee make any serious efforts to bring its report to the attention of the United Nations, or the public. One interesting comment on this incident is that the chief "International Committee" representative in the Far East at this time is the same Dr. Otto Lehner who inspected Hitler's concentration camps during World War II and gave them a clean bill of health.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has also been proposed as an "impartial investigator" by both Acheson and Trygve Lie. However, since WHO is an organ of the UN, the Chinese and Koreans can scarcely be blamed for regarding it as somewhat other than neutral as it would thus be called upon to investigate its own parent body. In addition, it has openly demonstrated its hostility to new China on several occasions. For example, since March of 1951, the WHO epidemic station in Singapore has on four separate occasions fabricated reports on "epidemics in China." Without a shred of evidence, WHO declared all Chinese ports as "under quarantine," thus playing a direct part in the US-directed blockade of China.

THE evidence compiled of US germ warfare in Korea and China cannot be dismissed lightly. It is massive and emanates from various international sources which conducted on-the-spot investigations:

1) A six-man group of journalists, representing papers in Korea, China and Hongkong, London, Paris, Budapest and Warsaw.

2) An international group of eight outstanding jurists made up of representatives from Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Britain, China, France, Italy and Poland. Headed by well-known Austrian Catholic Professor of Canon Law and International Law Heinrich Brandweiner, five of the eight-man group were non-Communists.

3) A team of Chinese medical and scientific workers which included Dr. Mei Ju-ao, China's member of the International Military Tribunal for the Far East, which tried major Japanese war criminals after VJ Day.

4) Dr. James Endicott, for 20 years Canadian missionary in China, made an extended visit to China in the spring during which he investigated those areas subjected to germ warfare.

5) Dr. Hewlett Johnson, England's Dean of Canterbury, spent 40 days in China this past summer and inspected the evidence of germ warfare and held talks

with Chinese Christian leaders who had also investigated the charges.

IN April, Kuo Mo-jo, vice-premier and chairman of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, in reply to a French newspaperman's query as to what conditions China would impose for selecting an international investigation commission, replied:

"None. The Chinese and Korean peoples will surely welcome any prominent figures so long as they are impartial and self-sacrificing. It is an exacting and serious task to come to China and Korea to investigate bacteriological warfare crimes. They must be prepared to risk their lives and challenge the forces of violence."

Following Kuo Mo-jo's reply, the Chinese officially announced that they would agree to an inquiry by a delegation of qualified scientists. The US and the UN have never replied.

Li Teh-chuan, head of the Chinese Red Cross Society delegation to the International Red Cross conference in Toronto, stated on August 8: "The Chinese people never refused any truly impartial, sincere, independent international personages coming over to investigate the atrocities committed and the germ warfare conducted by the American armed forces."

Despite the fact that the Korean and Chinese delegations went to Toronto prepared to submit fully documented evidence of America's germ warfare, the Toronto meeting refused to allow its presentation.

However, to cover itself, the meeting made an empty gesture at arranging an "investigation" at some future date by passing a resolution urging the Americans on the one hand and the Chinese and Koreans on the other to make arrangements for an investigation. In view of the more than year long efforts of the Chinese and Koreans to arrange an armistice agreement with the Americans in Korea, it is obvious that little can be expected from similar negotiations regarding an investigation of America's germ warfare. It is only to be expected that the Americans, who stand to lose by such an investigation, will do their best to stall—and eventually sabotage—any such negotiations.

ON July 13, 1952, Foreign Minister Chou En-lai announced that China had recognized and would abide by the Geneva Protocol of June 17, 1925, which prohibits the use of asphyxiating, toxic or similar gases and of bacteriological weapons in war. This leaves only Japan—who used germ warfare against China during the second world war—and the United States—who is currently using germ warfare against Korea and China—as non-signers of this international protocol.

Who's Scuttling Sino-British Trade?

IT is a recognized fact that large-scale trade with China would give Britain's sagging economy a sharp boost. However, during the past year and a half the British, while continuously **talking** about the desirability of increased trade with China, have deliberately cut this trade to a fraction of its former level.

Shorn of all diplomatic double-talk, the reason for the Sino-British trade decline is that the British government has tied itself to Washington's apron-strings. On the one hand the British indignantly insist that they want to do business with China, yet on the other hand London has blindly followed the United States in imposing ever greater restrictions on trade.

A glance at Sino-British trade figures tells the story. With a history of nearly 300 years, trade once averaged around US$280,000,000 annually. Today, trade is more than 80 percent off this average, although it might be two to three times higher than the best pre-war years.

In 1949, Sino-British commerce through Hongkong, the chief trade channel, totaled nearly US$172,000,000. In 1950 the figure more than doubled, reaching US$359,000,000. In the first six months of 1951, before Britain joined the US-run embargo and began controlling exports to China, the figure jumped to US$251,000,000 and was running at about double the old annual average. In addition to this trade through Hongkong, shipments through other trade channels were also up. In the first three months of 1951, Britain's direct exports to China were four times the same period in 1950.

However, beginning in mid-1951 Sino-British trade has dropped sharply, with Hongkong's trade declining by almost 60 percent during the second six months of 1951. This year the drop has been even greater. In 1951 Hongkong's trade with China averaged US$32,000,000 per month. The average for the first quarter of 1952 was around US$12,800,000, with the figures falling each month.

DESPITE the British government's discriminatory trade policy against China, the people's government has consistently stated that it is willing to develop commercial relations with Britain and all other countries on a basis of equality and mutual benefit. This was most recently reiterated by Vice-Foreign Minister Chang Han-fu on July 5.

Referring to a British note of May 19, which stated that nearly all British companies were prepared to wind up their affairs in China and that certain influential British companies were planning to set up a new joint organization to continue trade with China, Chang Han-fu pointed out that because of adherence to US pressure, British business has met serious and unnecessary difficulties. He said that many British firms in China have been reduced to retrenchment or closure by the depressed state of trade between the two countries. Although the Chinese government has made efforts to aid these firms by granting loans and supplying raw materials, the British government has not shown the least sign of relaxing its trade control measures. As a result the difficulties of British firms in China have increased.

The active promotion of trade between China and Britain on a basis of equality and mutual benefit is conducive to the recovery and development of industrial and agricultural production in both countries. For Britain this is especially important today, since the decline of her economy, so dependent on foreign trade, has resulted in growing economic difficulties at home. Increasing unemployment, as witnessed in the Lancashire textile industry, certainly could be alleviated by China orders.

Meanwhile China's economy has rapidly been approaching a boom stage. Despite the US-directed embargo and blockade, new China has made startling advances in all phases of her economy. Foreign trade, for instance, last year more than doubled that of 1950 and far exceeded the average pre-war level.

With industrial production rising rapidly, with farm output breaking all previous records, and with the purchasing power of hundreds of millions of peasants and workers at an all-time high, China is today one of the best markets in the world for foreign trade.

FRONT COVER

Minority dancers performing in Peking.

Three years of people's rule

Toward a New China

C. Y. W. MENG

SINCE the founding of the people's government on October 1, 1949, China has been the scene of vast changes. Economically, politically and culturally a new China is being swiftly built. While at home the people's living standard goes up, on the international scene China has emerged from the humiliating position of a semi-colony to that of an independent nation, a bulwark in the fight for world peace.

Under Chiang Kai-shek's rule, industrial and agricultural production declined steadily. By 1949, heavy industry output had fallen to 30 percent of the record year, and light industry production had dropped to 70 percent. Agricultural production was only 75 percent of the pre-war level.

The most pressing initial task of the people's government was the restoration and development of China's ruined economy. More has been done in these three years than in any previous three decades of Chinese history. The total value of industrial production increased by 26.7 percent in 1951 over 1950, and this year's increase will be still larger over 1951. The output of 35 main items of industrial production in the country has surpassed the highest pre-war level by 26 percent.

Total agricultural output in 1951 was restored to 92.8 percent of the highest pre-war annual output, and in 1952 the total output of grain will surpass the highest level in the history of China. This year will also see China self-sufficient in cotton supply.

Old China's machinery industry was mainly restricted to repairing and assembly jobs only. However, within three years new China has transformed this vital industry from that of a colonial and subordinate status to one which is independent. New China now turns out machine tools of all descriptions, and produces a host of modern machines ranging all the way from delicate scientific instruments to complete sets of textile machinery.

New China's rapid advance in industrialization is a firm answer to the blockade imposed by the US government which was aimed at paralyzing China's industries. As the past few years have shown, China is strong and determined to repel all attacks, and can live by her own efforts. The new China fights and rebuilds hand in hand.

LIBERATION found the nation in the grip of a malignant inflation which had lasted through the last 12 years of Kuomintang misrule. At its peak, this inflation was characterized by an annual price rise of a thousandfold and more.

By 1950, however, the Central People's Government had successfully stabilized prices of most essential commodities, such as grain and cloth. State trading organizations play a leading role in adjusting prices in line with the over-all economic aims of the state. The government's price control and stabilization policy has been one of the main guarantees of sufficient food and clothing for the people. It also is a prerequisite for the planned economic reconstruction of the country.

Trade is being promoted in every possible way to speed up the exchange of goods for the benefit of the people and their economy. The vast markets and raw materials which are being tapped within the country have more than nullified the results of the Western embargo on China. The expansion of urban-rural trade is one example of how the Washington-inspired embargo has actually caused a speeding up in China's economic development.

The people's government is also assisting private enterprise. For example the East China General Goods Corporation, a state-operated organization, recently signed purchase contracts with more than 370 private Shanghai firms.

One of the guiding principles in placing purchasing or pro-

C. Y. W. MENG has been a contributing editor to the Review for some 15 years. His last article appeared in the June issue. — Editor.

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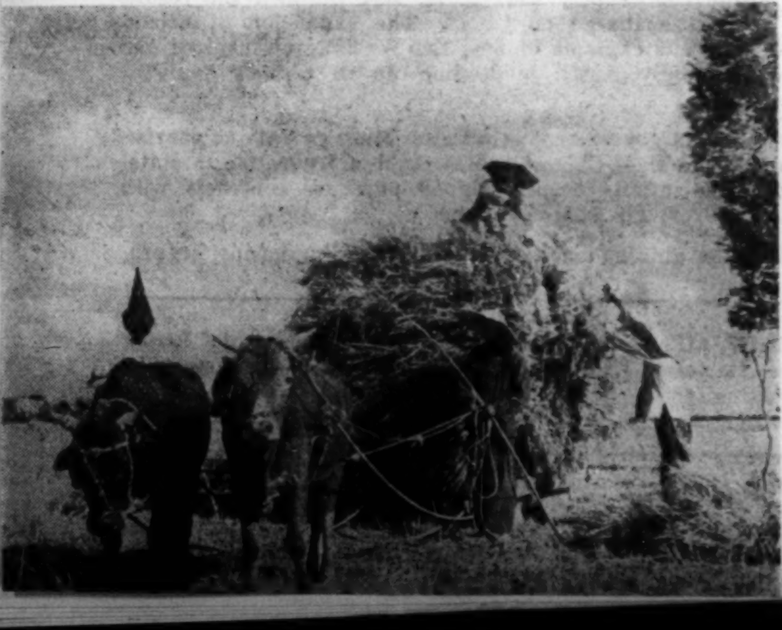
cessing orders with private enterprise is to guarantee a reasonable profit. However, market stability as well as the interests of the manufacturers, sellers and consumers are all taken into consideration. Government loans must be used for the purpose they are contracted for. Any attempt on the part of the unscrupulous to accrue huge profits at public expense is not tolerated.

THE taming of China's one-time rampaging rivers and the construction of railroads are concrete examples of the latent forces and hopes for a rich future which liberation has unleashed in China.

Among the many large-scale flood control works the Huai River project is an outstanding one. The aim of this gigantic effort is not only to put an end to the centuries-old flood threat, but also to bring 40,000,000 *mou* of land under proper irrigation, to develop 1,000 kilometers of navigable waterways and to build a number of power stations. With the completion of the first stage of the project the Huai River Valley has taken on a new appearance. Bumper crops were harvested both in the summer and autumn of 1951 following the elimination of the flood threat.

Last year, aside from nearly 3,000,000 workers on the job,

Villagers of Lingpi in south Anhwei harvested a bumper wheat crop this year.



more than 400,000 workers in different trades, including construction, metal, tele-communication, carpenters, etc. have been engaged directly or indirectly on the Huai project which has already benefited 55,000,000 people living on both sides of this mighty river.

The construction of the Chengtu-Chungking railroad, which had been in the "planning" stage for 40 years, is another milestone in China's construction. The new railway is an important link in the network which, when completed, will tie together the country's most remote areas.

BY mid-1952 China's land reform had been basically completed. More than 400,000,000 people in the rural areas were emancipated from a system of feudal and semi-feudal land ownership. This has meant the release of huge productive forces on the part of the mass of the peasants, thus creating a prerequisite for the industrialization of the country.

Rising production has been one of the fruits of land reform. Having received their share of the land, the peasants have produced bigger crops. In the areas where land reform has been completed, 30-40 percent of the peasants have joined peasants' associations, and have organized mutual-aid teams which have greatly upped production.

The tremendous increase in the purchasing power of China's 400,000,000 peasants brought on by land reform is something hitherto unseen. Not only are they buying livestock, chemical fertilizer, waterwheels and modern farm utensils in large quantities, but the peasants are now demanding all kinds of consumers goods previously beyond their reach: cotton piecegoods, books, flashlights, medicines, soap, and so forth. The spurt in the purchasing power of the Northeast peasants is reflected in the increasing sales of cotton piecegoods: 800,000 bolts in 1947; 1,200,000 in 1948; 3,200,000 in 1949; 9,000,000 in 1950; and 11,000,000 last year.

This year's unified progressive agricultural tax has further lowered agricultural taxes which had already been cut by 25 percent in 1950.

At the time of liberation, China was a capital-deficient nation. New China, however, does not seek to amass capital by ever-increasing taxation, a course which would be detrimental to the nation's living standards and which would also hinder the rehabilitation and development of the national economy in which private capitalists, handicraftsmen, peasants and other small producers occupy an important place. Nor would new China resort to the exploitative methods of Western capitalism or the brutal plunder of colonial peoples to benefit its own industrialization. Therefore, the movements for increased production, reducing waste, improving efficiency, etc. are of the greatest importance to China during this initial phase of national construction.

The accumulation of capital in new China is accomplished chiefly through raising labor productivity in all fields, the introduction of scientific and democratic management, the adoption of rationalized working methods, making fuller use of all available productive capacity, speedier circulation of operating capital, and lowering production costs. All state-operated enterprises, for example, have been instructed to pare operating costs from six to 10 percent for 1952.

Some examples of how new production methods help accumulate capital are found in the two following methods: In Shanghai, the Ho Chien-shiu method (named after the girl cotton worker who developed it) has helped cut down cotton yarn wastage by 50 percent, while the 1951 weaving method has helped augment the working efficiency of loom workers by 100 percent. It is estimated that the promotion of these two advanced methods has already been responsible for the creation of sufficient extra wealth to set up 13 textile mills of 30,000 spindles each, or to build new living quarters for 44,000 workers and their families.

ILLITERACY was one of the chief weapons used by the KMT in its efforts to perpetuate ignorance and superstition so as to maintain its grip on the country. Since liberation a nationwide fight has been launched against illiteracy. The new simplified system of teaching reading and writing is bound to have a profound effect on the people, and will accelerate our social and cultural advancement.

Since liberation great effort has been put into giving workers and peasants the opportunity for an education. Last year 1,780,000 factory workers attended newly established workers' spare time schools. This attendance represented an increase of 124 percent over 1949. Attendance in peasants' winter schools last year was 35,860,000 as compared to 25,000,000 in 1950. In addition more than 11,000,000 peasants were admitted to regular schools in 1951.

LIBERATION has meant improved welfare for the nation's workers. In Shanghai's textile mills summer temperatures

This new sluice gate is part of the Hsi Fei River conservancy project in north Kiangsu province.

frequently passed the 100 degree Fahrenheit mark, while in the spinning and weaving sheds it was not unusual for the thermometer to register as much as 110 degrees. In KMT days this was considered a "normal" condition in the mills. Under the people's government air conditioning and better ventilation systems have been installed in many of the mills and regulations for the state textile mills require temperatures to be kept between 68 to 86 degrees in the summer.

Living conditions as well as working conditions have improved in all respects. Salaried and wage employees and workers in the Northeast, for example, saw their earnings go up by 27 percent in 1949, another 12 percent in 1950, and 15 percent more last year—and as there is no inflation these wage increases represent a solid gain in living standards. According to the most conservative estimates, purchasing power in China last year was 30 percent higher than in 1950. This huge purchasing power, without parallel in pre-liberated China, has broadened the home market, given an impetus to production, and at the same time is a powerful incentive for foreign countries to expand their trade with new China.

Unemployment is well on the way to permanent banishment. Many hundreds of thousands found jobs in the past three years as the proportion of industrial production expanded from 10 to nearly 30 percent of the national economy. Public works absorbed many, some were trained as skilled workers, others were urged to change their work and still others, who had drifted into the cities because of intolerable conditions in the countryside before liberation, were urged to return home to engage in productive work, with the government financing their return fare.

THE people have organized themselves into democratically run mass organizations, such as the trade unions, peasants' associations, women's organization and so on. They elect their own representatives and discuss all problems democratically.

In the recent summer health "clean-up" campaign people of all walks of life, old and young, businessmen and housewives turned out to do their part in making Shanghai a healthier place to live in. Today, the city is cleaner than at any time in its history. The men who directed the workers were not policemen or officials but neighborhood leaders who were selected by residents of each district. Everyone worked hard, not by compulsion but by their own desire and understanding of the intention of the government.

Before liberation health conditions were appalling. Under the KMT it was estimated that the nation's death rate amounted to more than 30 per 1,000 persons. In some areas infant

The Wang Nan Kow village nursery is typical of the hundreds of nurseries established in rural areas.

The Su Chang-yu model workers brigade demonstrates its rapid brick-laying method which raises productivity five times. Among observers is Kao Kang (second from right), chairman of the Northeast People's Government.

mortality reached the frightful figure of 40 percent. Death from disease was unbelievably high in the national minority areas. One area in Inner Mongolia, for instance, which formerly had a population of 400,000, contained only 100,000 people by the time of liberation.

Since liberation more than 200,000,000 people have been vaccinated against smallpox in new China. By the end of this year practically every man, woman and child will be vaccinated. Smallpox will be wiped out completely within the next three to five years. At the same time, annual nation-wide inoculation drives have virtually eliminated epidemics so prevalent before.

THE third anniversary of the founding of people's China finds the nation more solidly united than at any period in its history. China is a multi-national country and today the great majority of the people are on the march. Things are no longer static but the people are eagerly seeking out the new, convinced that something great and heroic is taking place in this country. Fully conscious of the tasks before them, the Chinese people have implicit faith in their future, a socialist future.

RAILWAY BRINGS NEW LIFE TO SZECHUEN

Chen Shan-yi

THE 505-kilometer Chungking - Chengtu railroad, which remained a paper plan for 40 years, was opened to traffic on July 1, having been completed within two years after liberation. Completion of the line was another concrete proof of the ability and resourcefulness of the Chinese people, freed from the Kuomintang yoke. The line is another step forward in China's economic reconstruction and has already benefited Szechuen's commerce and industry.

Unlike other railroads in China, which were constructed by rival imperialisms in cahoots with warlords and bureaucratic officials for the sake of profits, the Chungking-Chengtu railroad was built without expensive foreign loans, using domestic materials, from rails to spikes and ties.

On July 1, to mark the opening of the line, a train left Chungking and another left Chengtu simultaneously, meeting at Neikiang, the midway station. Literally the whole length of the line was thronged with peasants, the majority of whom had never seen a railroad train. Many made special trips to Chengtu for the inauguration ceremony, among them a 75-year-old man who recalled that he had paid 40 taels of silver 40 years ago for railroad shares but had never seen a single rail laid. "Now the government has built a railway," he said, "and it didn't ask us to pay a cent."

Completion of the line ahead of schedule was a significant achievement in the light of the difficult conditions under which construction was begun, on June 15, 1950. Chungking and Chengtu had been liberated only six months, KMT remnants were still active, and banditry was rampant along the line. The government was in difficult financial straits, industry was stagnant, with most of the factories suspended, and Chungking had 100,000 unemployed. There were no materials at hand, not a length of rail, not one tie.

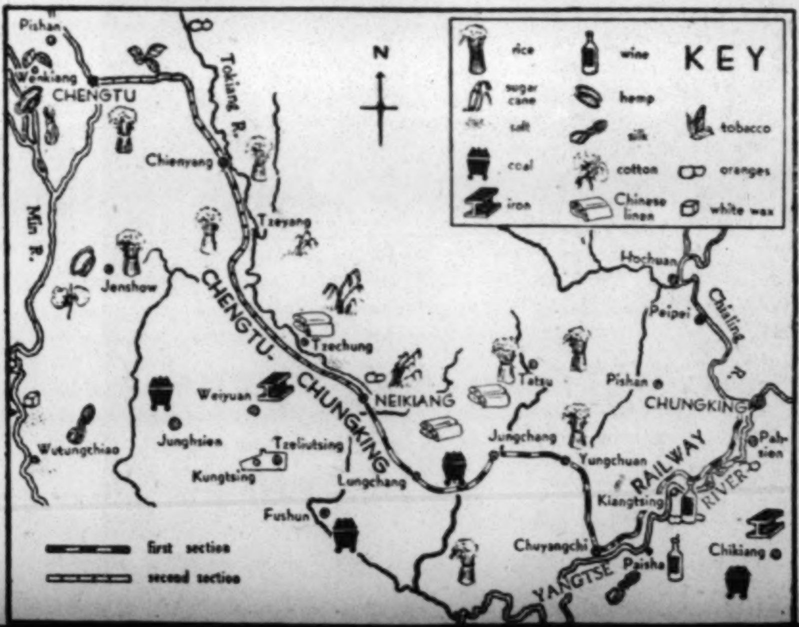
Nevertheless, the government began the project, which, as it got under way, put new life into industry and gave work to the jobless. The KMT legacy of rusting machinery and idle workers produced thousands of tons of rails for the line. In the past, ties had been imported; now, Szechuen peasants supplied 1,200,000 ties from their forests.

Industrial workers, PLA men and peasants cooperated in putting the line through. The construction work was pioneered by 25,000 PLA men who attacked the rocky mountains with the same energy they had displayed on the battlefield. The 100,000 peasant laborers who followed invented many labor-saving devices and achieved records in the emulation drives.

Chungking iron and steel workers vied with their fellow workers in the Northeast to fulfil and overfulfil their quotas of rails, fish plates, girders, rolling stock and other equipment. Crews of steamers on the upper Yangtze run made hazardous night voyages through the gorges in low-water season to get supplies to the line on time.

Economic benefits of the line have already begun to appear. Living standards of more than 1,000,000 persons along the

Map of the Chungking-Chengtu Railway and surrounding territory. This new rail link taps one of the richest sections of the country.


KEY
rice
wine
sugar cane
hemp
salt
silk
tobacco
coal
cotton
oranges
iron
Chinese linen
white wax
N
Pishan
Wenkiang
CHENGTU
Tokiang R.
Chienyang
Tzeyang
Min R.
Jenshow
CHENGTU-CHUNGKING
Tzechung
NEIKIANG
Weiyuan
Junghsien
Wutungchiao
Tzeliutsing
Kungtsing
Lungchang
Fushun
Tatsu
Jungchang
Yungchuan
Hochuan
Peipei
Chialing R.
Pishan
CHUNGKING
Pahsien
RAILWAY
RIVER
Kiangtsing
Chuyangchi
Paisha
YANGTSE
Chikiang
first section
second section

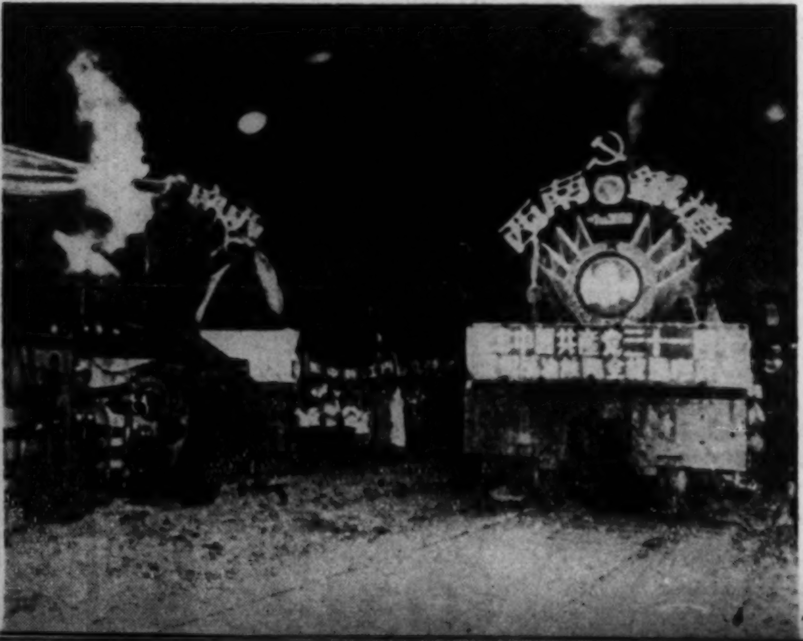
right of way have improved; the civilian laborers who began work a year ago in tattered clothing have now returned home, in new clothes, taking with them farming tools and fertilizers.

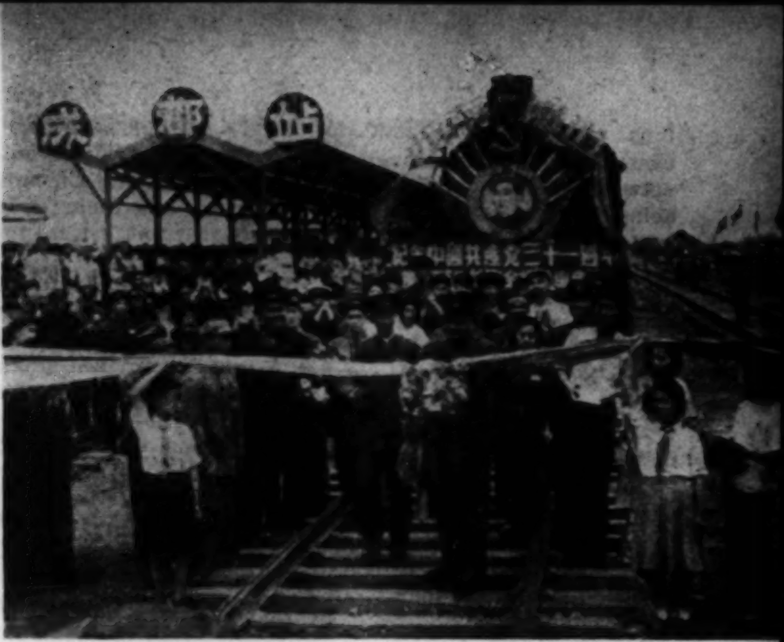
Chungking metal and steel industries have more orders than they can handle, and collieries, cement plants, sulphur mines, brick kilns, and the electrical and chemical plants are in the midst of an unprecedented boom, while river transport and trucking concerns are making big profits.

Aside from its immediate effect on the economy of Szechuen, the line will greatly assist in the exchange of agricultural products from the rich Szechuen basin with industrial products from outside the province. Szechuen's fertile Red Basin crossed by the new line is proverbially known as the "heavenly granary." Sugar cane flourishes in the subtropical Neikiang district; Tzekung wells tap an inexhaustible supply of salt; grain surpluses feed distant provinces; and Kiangtsing oranges vie with those of California. Other staples produced along the line are the coal and iron of Weiyuan, the tobacco of Tzeyang and Chienyang, the cotton of Chienyang and Jenshou, the grass linen of Lungchang and the wine of Luhsien.

Heretofore the exchange of these products has been handi-

The first trains from Chungking and Chengtu pass at Neikiang, mid-point city on the line.





General Ho Lung, vice-chairman of the Southwest China Military and Administrative Committee, cuts ribbon as first train from Chungking pulls into Chengtu, capital of Szechuen province.

capped by mountainous terrain and lack of cheap and speedy transport facilities. The railway has now solved this problem. Formerly, it cost a passenger ¥210,000 to make an uncomfortable two or three day bus trip between Chungking and Chengtu; now he can go by sleeper in 17 hours for less than ¥100,000.

On the average, railway freight costs only one-tenth of motor freight and one-quarter of junk freight; for example, it used to cost ¥870,000 to send a ton of sugar by truck from Neikiang to Chungking; it now costs only ¥125,000 by rail. One train can carry freight equal to the capacity of 250 trucks or 30 large junks. In the first 10 months of operation of the Chungking-Yungchuan (later extended to Neikiang) section, 200,000 passengers and 160,000 tons of freight were carried.

Reduced freight charges have begun to affect prices; for example, textiles are now cheaper in Neikiang. Tachu, although it produced a rice surplus, never exported rice; now a highway links Tachu with the railway, over which 1,000 tons of rice were sent to Chungking in May alone. A network of feeder highways is being built.

Weiyuan collieries have a great share in the new prosperity. Coal needed by Neikiang sugar refineries is now sent by rail at a great saving, which in turn will aid the development of the sugar industry. Weiyuan coal, available in Chengtu, will replace wood as fuel for household and industrial purposes. Cities along the line are bustling; in Neikiang there are now 719 more business enterprises than there were last year.

Construction of the line through mountainous country was a difficult task, necessitating the boring of more than 40 tunnels and the building of 1,300 bridges and culverts; Tokiang Bridge, 350 meters long, is the longest. The present number of 43 stations will be increased to 60, or one station every 8.5 kilometers on the average. Three trains leave Chungking daily: a night express to Chengtu, with sleepers and diner; a local to Chengtu; and a local to Lungchang.

The Chungking - Chengtu railroad is important not merely as the main artery of Szechuen province, linking the hinterland with the Yangtze port of Chungking, but it will also bring west Szechuen, Sikang and Tibet into closer connection with the rest of China. On the day of its completion, work was begun on the Chengtu-Tiensuei railroad; and two other lines are being planned, the Chungking-Kweiyang-Kinchenkiang and the Chungking-Kunming railroads.

Thus the Chungking-Chengtu line will form part of the main trunk railroad linking China's vast Northwest and Southwest areas. Development of China's great west, so long held back by primitive means of transportation, has begun to move rapidly ahead.

FIRST CHINA-BUILT LOCOMOTIVE

THE first locomotive entirely made in China has been turned out by workers of the Szefang railway workshop near Tsingtao in East China. Difficulties arising over the manufacture of parts, which formerly were exclusively imported from abroad, were overcome as a result of worker-technician cooperation.

In a test run China's first locomotive gave a steady performance at 75 kilometers per hour. The locomotive, operating at high speed, pulled more than 3,000 tons of freight.

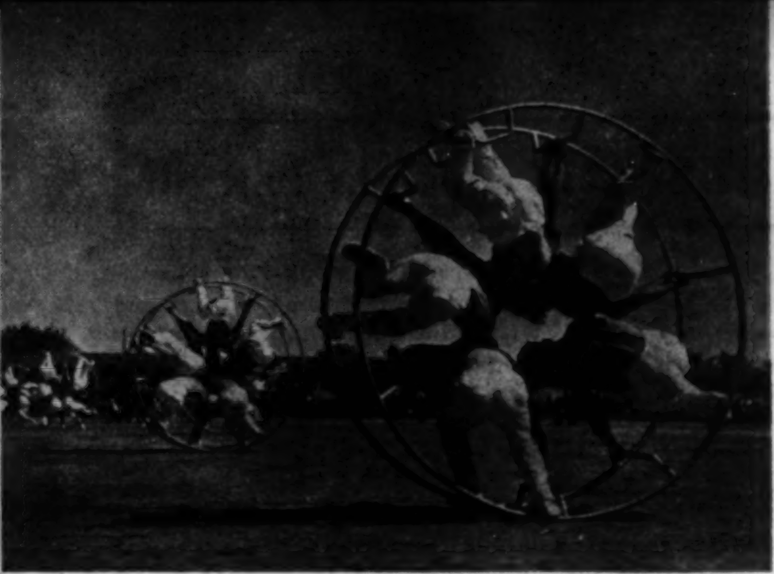
ARMY SPORTS MEET IN PEKING

NEW China is fast becoming sports conscious. Since liberation, for the first time, there is widespread interest and participation in athletics. With nation-wide emphasis on physical fitness, women as well as men are not only attending sports events but they are taking part in activities on the field itself, on factory and shop teams, school teams and other organizations.

The development of sports in China was highlighted by the 11-day All-Army Sports Meet which opened in Peking on August 1. Held in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, it was China's first national sports meet. Representatives of army units from all over China took part.

Commpetitive events included track and field, men and women's volleyball and swimming contests, basketball, soccer, baseball, horsemanship, obstacle races, motor cycling, bicycling, weight-lifting and gymnastics.

Women parachutists acknowledging cheers of spectators.



Calisthenics exhibition by members of the Chinese People's Airforce.

The growing interest in sports was reflected by the overwhelming demand for tickets. With practically all tickets bought up days in advance, Peking fans waited long hours in line to get the remaining tickets. A national radio hookup carried descriptions of the meet's main events to all parts of the country.

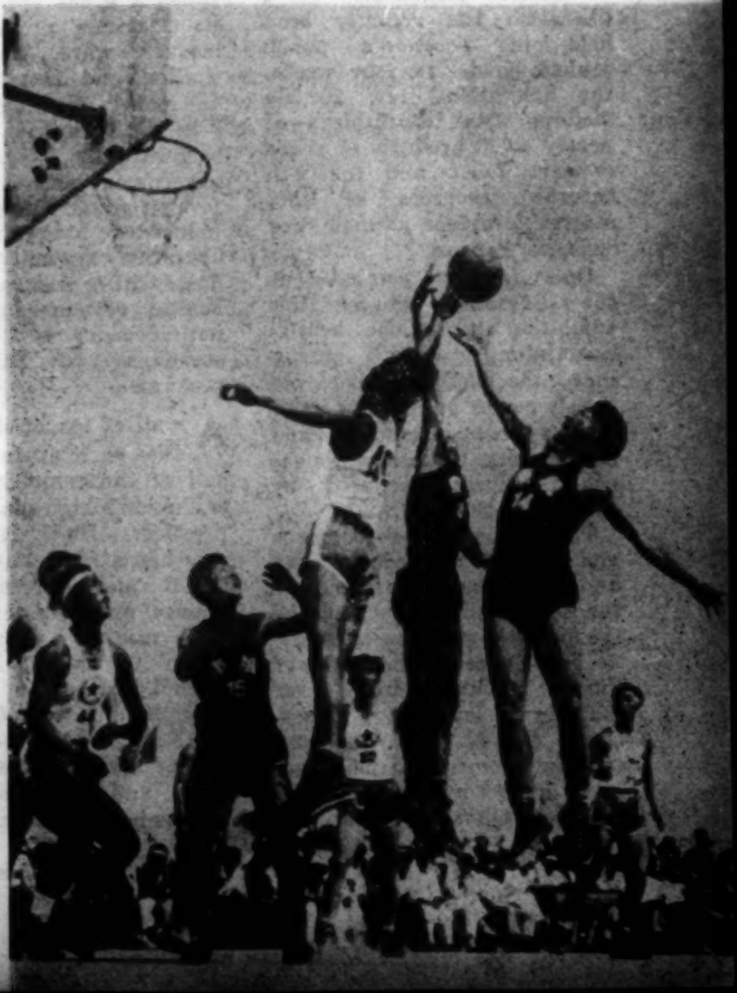
One of the highlights of the meet was the exhibition basket-

Championship tug-of-war team in the finals.

ball games between the PLA and the visiting Polish men and women's teams on a tour of China. The army teams were chosen from among crack army men and women players.

More than 600,000 spectators attended the 11-day meet in the course of which a number of national records were shattered.

Scramble for the ball during basketball game between "August 1" and "East China" PLA teams.



EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS REVIVAL OF ECONOMY

Ho Tun-sun

FUKIEN'S first native products exhibition since liberation has recently been held in Foochow's public athletic field. In four weeks, the exhibition drew 200,000 visitors with its displays of nearly 4,000 products of men's creative labor and the rich natural resources of this coastal province, which lies opposite Taiwan.

One farmer pointed out the difference between this exhibition and the ones held in Kuomintang days, saying that the latter "displayed merely curios and luxury items for the benefit of landlords and bureaucrats, while now we see useful things produced by farm and factory."

The profusion of goods, maps and charts dazzled the eyes and gave concrete evidence of the successful efforts made by the people's government to develop the great potentialities of Fukien, which has been lavishly endowed by nature. Great forests supply timber; tea, mushrooms and medicinal herbs grow on the hills; good soil and climate produce delicious fruits; and the sea yields a great variety of fish. Its factories produce famous lacquer ware, horn combs, wooden and rattan furniture and many other commodities.

In KMT days, as a result of backwardness, overall misgovernment and the influx of foreign goods, Fukien's various industries stagnated. Since liberation, agriculture and industry have seen a rapid and healthy development, a steady improvement in the living standards of workers and peasants.

A wall of tea bricks fronting the agricultural products hall of the exhibition attested to Fukien's high place as a tea producer. Black tea, which now has a good market in the USSR and the new democracies, grows in the east, and tea scented with jasmine, which grows luxuriantly around Foochow, is popular in Shanghai, North China and the Northeast. Green tea and Oolong are favorites in Hongkong and Southeast Asia. Chungan county, in the west, is the only producer of the world-famous Bohea tea.

Last year, Fukien produced 100,000 *piculs* of tea, more than twice as much as in 1948 and of a much better quality. To improve the quality of tea, the government's first step was to break up the exploitative burdens heavily imposed upon the tea farmers by the KMT government; then the government set aside Y2,000,000,000 for wholesale purchase of the new crop.

FUKIEN, with the Northeast and Hunan, is one of China's foremost timber producing provinces, with more than 32,000,000 *mou* in the north covered by forests. Fir is used for constructing carts and houses; pine for furniture and matches; and the camphor tree's valuable gum has a wide variety of industrial uses.

After the peak lumber export year of 1929, exports dwindled, as a result of large imports from abroad and the manipulation of the market by speculators. On the eve of liberation, Fukien's timber export had dwindled to only one-fifth of the 1929 total, with grave effects upon the economy of the province and the livelihood of workers engaged in the industry.

HO TUN-SUN, a contributing editor of the Review, is a teacher at the First Provincial Middle School in Foochow, Fukien province.

Now the industry is rapidly recovering. The Foochow Import and Export Company has encouraged saw mills to move to the forest area, and has helped them financially. Sawn lumber is shipped in increasing quantities to East China cities for the growing needs of construction.

Fukien's widespread bamboo cultivation provides pulp for paper making, with 80 percent of the counties engaged in the industry. Bamboo pulp produces paper of three grades, the first being white, of good quality, suitable for printing and writing. The second grade is newsprint while the third grade is yellowish in color and of uneven thickness.

Top production of paper was 900,000 *piculs* in 1936, but this industry like others declined until, just before liberation, only 46 of Fukien's 339 mills were operating, and 5,000 workers were unemployed. Now, as a result of better economic conditions, all the mills have reopened and this year's production target is 800,000 *piculs*. The demand for paper is great, and Fukien paper is now sold in Kunming, Sinkiang and the Northeast, an unprecedentedly wide market.

FUKIEN's soil and climate are excellent for the growing of sugar cane, especially in the south and along the coast, where there is a growing sugar refining industry. The white and brown sugar produced are comparable in quality to Taiwan sugar.

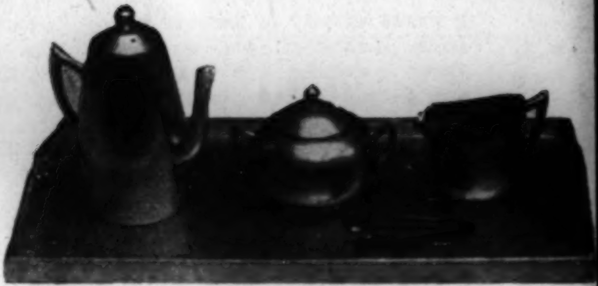
After VJ-Day, annual output of sugar approached 1,000,000 *piculs*, but with the increasing import of American sugar, currency inflation and exploitation of sugar cane growers, output declined to only 300,000 *piculs* before liberation. After the KMT regime was thrown out, the People's Bank of Fukien issued loans to sugar cane farmers and the national trading company maintained the price of sugar, at the ratio of 100 *catties* of sugar to 260 *catties* of rice.

With flood control, greater use of fertilizer, extermination of insect pests and continuing financial aid from the government, sugar production this year will total 800,000 *piculs*, attaining the 1947 level.

Fukien mushrooms are famous in China as well as abroad; formerly they found a wide market in Pacific countries and all over China. The province produces many different types of mushrooms, and it is perhaps not widely known that they are a source of vitamin D. While the foreign market

China has long been famous for its lacquer ware which is sold all over the world. Foochow is the country's leading producing center. Below, a large lacquer screen done in the traditional style.

A modern lacquer tea service.



has dwindled, owing to the US blockade, the domestic market has expanded steadily.

Mushroom growers too have been given government aid. When, in early 1950, the market price in Shanghai fell considerably, the national trading company came to the growers' help and bought up their crop. Since then, prices have recovered and production is now at a satisfactory level.

TOBACCO, long ago introduced to southern Fukien from Luzon, is now widely cultivated in 36 counties of Fukien. The best quality, equivalent to Virginia tobacco, grown since 1936, is now widely marketed in the Yangtze valley and southwest China. Last year, after land reform, the farmers in addition got government loans and increased the tobacco growing area. One county alone grew a little more than 1,000,000 *catties*, an increase of 50 percent as compared with the pre-liberation crop, and this year the production target is about 2,000,000 *catties* of cured leaf.

Foochow horn combs are also well known for their durability and appearance. The rough, unattractive ox horns, after going through a six-months' curing process, followed by cutting, polishing and decoration, become beautiful combs. The trade began in 1925 and developed rapidly until 1935, when 200,000 combs were produced each month. The Japanese ruined the industry by widespread dumping of cheap imitations, and after VJ Day the flood of imported US plastic combs prevented recovery; in 1947 monthly production was down to a mere few thousand. At present, this industry is prospering, with a growing monthly production which has now reached 100,000 combs.

Fukien lacquer ware has also had world-wide renown, and was exhibited at the Chicago World's Fair and other international exhibitions. The workmanship is of a high order, and craftsmen produce a great variety of lacquer objects, including beds, screens, vases, smoking and tea sets and trays. Today the biggest foreign markets are in the USSR and the new democracies.

Lacquer ware is being improved in quality, while its cost is being lowered to make it more widely available to the people. The old designs, depicting feudal lords and superstitious scenes, have been changed to show the achievements of peaceful labor.

Fukien ranks next after Kiangsi for its porcelain and chinaware, producing 100,000 *piculs* annually. The most delicate ware is produced in Tehwa county, which, with Ningteh, Mintsing and Kutien, accounts for most of the production. In Tehwa alone 35,000 workers are engaged in the industry.

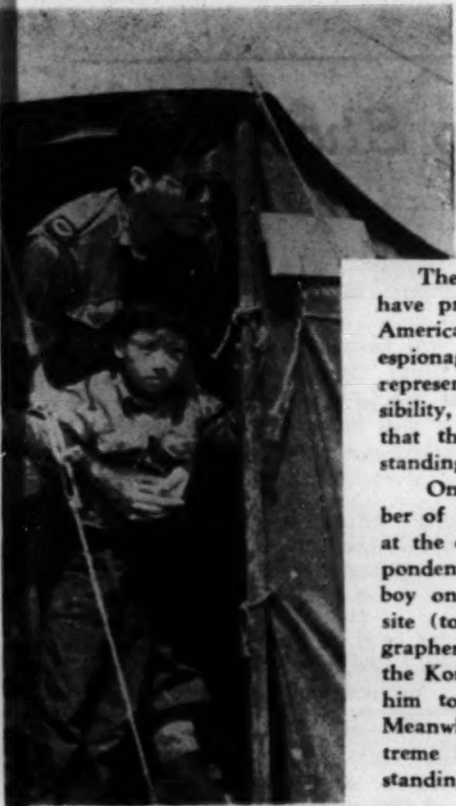
The manufacturing process consists in first mixing the fine white *kaolin* clay with water. The paste is formed by deft fingers into a vessel, which is then baked in a kiln. Finely powdered feldspar, mixed with water, is then painted over the surface and the vessel is then baked again, the feldspar forming a glaze. Designs are added and the vessel is baked once more, a glaze forming over the design.

The industry produces all sorts of articles, from porcelain spoons to statuettes, which formerly had a wide market overseas. However, after VJ-Day the market dwindled under the pressure of US manufactured plastic products, and 70 percent of the pottery workers in Fukien were on the streets; production dropped to 30,000 *piculs* yearly, and quality also declined.

In 1950, the government granted 50,000 *catties* of rice for the relief of the jobless workers, and by the following year urgent problems of production and transportation had been solved. Production has increased in quality and quantity, and this year will total 70,000 *piculs*.

THE industries mentioned above illustrate the stagnation and backwardness that prevailed in KMT days, and the increased production and improvement in living standards that have come since liberation. The people's government has done much to encourage industry by giving loans and purchasing its products.

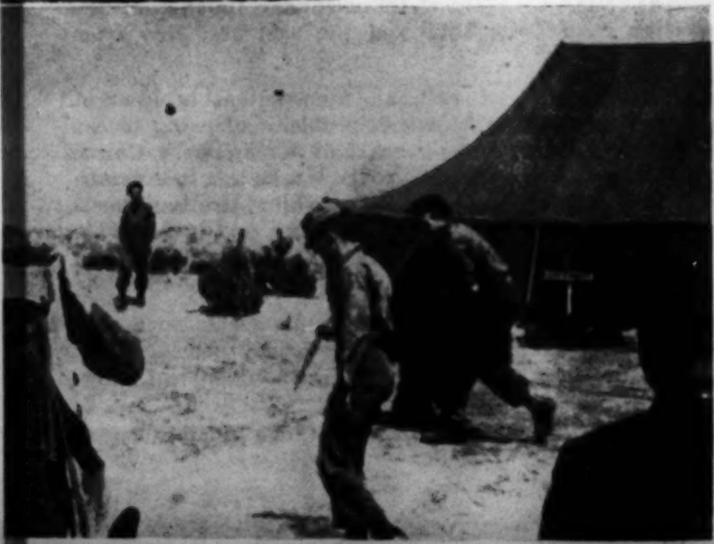
Fukien's communications are constantly improving; more than 1,000 kilometers of public highway have been built since liberation, and water routes have been dredged and widened. In 1951, Fukien exported goods with an estimated value of Y400,000,000,000 to the rest of China and foreign countries, and this year's total will be substantially higher.



CHILDREN AS SPIES

The North Koreans and Chinese have protested several times against the American practice of using children for espionage work. Invariably the US representatives have tried to evade responsibility, denying the charge or claiming that the whole thing was a misunderstanding.

On the morning of April 10 a member of the US delegation was discovered at the entrance to the American correspondents' tent coaching a young Korean boy on the location of the conference site (top photo). Seeing that a photographer was watching him, he wrapped the Korean boy in a blanket and rushed him to a waiting jeep (lower photo). Meanwhile, an American interpreter, extreme right, tried to block camera by standing in front of photographer.



Tiensuei to Shanghai

WALTER ILLSLEY

WHEN we came through Tiensuei in 1948 the Kuomintang soldiers at the city gates wouldn't let our truck inside the city. No reason was given. It was just an order from the local commander, a product of the usual "bandit suppression campaign." Since bandits were not likely to drive up in a truck the logic of this KMT maneuver was hard to find except that, like most such efforts, it gave the appearance of doing something but only succeeded in annoying everyone.

We had to park outside the city wall and unload our cargo of 50-gallon drums of gasoline and roll them one by one for half a mile into the city to our depot. Nobody checked to see if the drums were filled with gasoline, dynamite or sawdust.

This time, coming up the same road to Tiensuei, the guards were gone as were the city gates. The doors to the city wall, four-inch planking studded with big diamond-headed nails and armored on the outside, which used to be carefully shut and padlocked nightly, are gone also.

Tiensuei is progressing toward the day when it will be one of the principal railway centers of China, at the junction of the north-south line from Chungking and the east-west line from the coast to Lanchow.

The full significance of railroad construction is brought home when one considers the transport problems of using trucks to cover the great distances in western and northwestern China. When three of our standard 2½-ton Dodge trucks left the Yumen oilfields with full loads of gasoline for Chungking, two truckloads would be consumed in getting the trucks there and back. This is a high fare to pay for the 3,000 miles of driving and the more than one month spent on the road.

The bare cost of tires, gas, oil and repair under such conditions came to more than 10 cents in US money per kilometer ton. Transport up the Yangtze River from Shanghai to Chungking was about US$100 per ton; and transportation of one ton of machinery to Lanchow cost at least US$250, to the Yumen oilfields about US$350 and to Sinkiang US$500.

Thus it is not surprising that technical development of the region was slight, nor is it difficult to understand the present emphasis on railway construction. The rail line from Shanghai to Tiensuei was back in service a few months after liberation and now in this region alone about 850 kilometers of new construction, well over half the distance from Chungking to Lanchow, has been completed.

IN the old days travel by rail, particularly in the interior, was something of an adventure. Both brawn and wit were needed. First came the grand rush at the ticket window with everyone throwing fistfuls of inflated KMT money at the harassed ticket seller and shouting out his destination. Then came the endless hours of waiting and wondering if the train was coming at all.

One never knew; a bridge might be out, a tunnel may have slipped, or some KMT official or general might have decided to hold up the train—as was the case I personally witnessed in Hunan where an officer insisted on boarding the first-class car, contrary to regulations, with his bodyguard of two vicious dogs. Finally, when the train pulled in, there was the mad scramble to spot a car with some space, then shove your baggage through the window before the train completely stopped in order to save a seat or at least get standing room. If standing room was all

In this article Walter Illsley describes his journey from the present rail head at Tiensuei in Kansu province down across Central China to Shanghai. An account of the first leg of his trip from Sandan in China's Northwest hinterland appeared in the August issue of the Review. An agricultural engineer and economist, Mr. Illsley is a young American who came to China at the end of the Pacific War with the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA). For the past few years he has been connected with the Sandan School, a technical training institute run by the Chinese Industrial Cooperatives.—Editor.

taken inside the car one took to the roof or the cowcatcher on the front of the locomotive.

For those diehard "Old China Hands," who claim that China can't change (at least not without Western help) a trip on today's railways is recommended. Even in such a far-off place as Tiensuei orderliness, service to the traveler and punctuality are unbreakable rules.

I was unnecessarily cautious and showed up at the station at 6:30 in the morning, an hour before the ticket window opened. When the station master arrived he used a megaphone to explain the baggage regulations, told the people where to line up and weigh their baggage, where and when to buy tickets, when the train would arrive at the different stops along the line and all other necessary information.

That the trains were fast, punctual and not crowded came as no surprise, but the extent of the cleanliness was something else. As soon as we got under way conductors came through each car asking everyone's cooperation in not littering the floors. Our car must have been swept out about 10 times each day. Three or four times a day the window ledges were dusted and whenever we pulled into a large station crews washed down the outside of all cars and polished the windows. I've traveled on trains in Germany, Denmark, Sweden, as well as in Canada and the US and never before saw such scrupulous cleanliness.

From Tiensuei to Paochi the line follows the Wei River and along this run of less than 100 miles there are more than 120 tunnels. In many places the river has cut such a narrow valley through the mountains that there was no way to build a rail bed except by tunneling. These tunnels, which were built some years ago, were not properly lined and continually caved in. Now they are being reinforced with concrete and this work is going on while the line is in use.

At Paochi the railway comes out on the great plain that stretches to the ocean and is one of China's major wheat producing areas. Changing to a larger and faster train, I sat opposite a young man dressed in workers' blue. He was a surveyor for the railroad, and was on his way to Hankow to get his wife and child and bring them back to Tiensuei where he had gone on a temporary assignment three months before. Finding the Northwest to his liking he had obtained a permanent transfer, and like thousands of others he was moving his family to areas of new development.

We traveled together for the rest of the day and through the next morning. Along the way he proudly pointed out the new brick hostels which had been put up by the railway union for the train crews. They were complete with baths, lounges, and reading rooms as well as basketball courts, he said. He also called my attention to the rail workers' new housing projects as we passed through some of the towns. At one station a long red banner stretched across the front of the building and drew much attention from the passengers. He explained that this railway station was the winner of a national competition for maintenance efficiency.

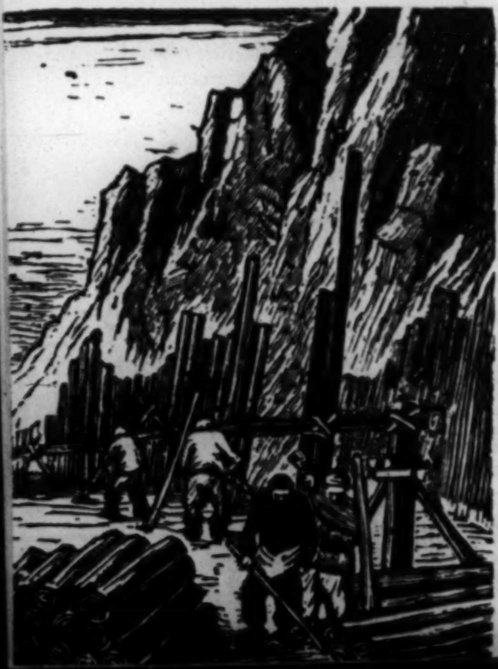
It occurred to me that the popularity which the West bestows on its professional athletes is enjoyed by the heroes of industry and agriculture in new China.

At Chengchow my friend changed trains and went south and his place was taken by a young army medical corps man on leave from Lanchow and a girl of about 20 from Chengchow. The girl was delighted when she found out that

the army man was from near her home town, not far from the city of Kaifeng. The medic was going home for the first time in nine years, having left at the age of 16 during the Japanese invasion. He had gone into the KMT army but later went over to the People's Liberation Army "because the KMT never really fought the Japanese." The girl asked him so many questions about his work at the Lanchow hospital that I began to think she might be a nurse or a public health worker.

When I asked her she replied: "Oh no, I've only a little job in the revolution." She said she worked in a textile plant and in the evenings helped with literacy classes for other workers. The conversation turned to me and they asked where I was from. When I said I was an American the girl was at first openly skeptical and insisted that I must be from Sinkiang where many of the people look like foreigners. However, I explained I was a technician and showed some snapshots of the school I had been working in at Sandan and she told me that she would soon be attending a technical school through arrangements made by her union.

By the time the train reached Kaifeng we were talking and laughing like old friends. They got off at Kaifeng and as I watched them leaving the station, I thought of the vast changes liberation has brought for China's women. In the old days this girl would have worked out her life in the factory, doubly exploited because of her sex. Today she has an opportunity for advanced study and may even end up as manager of her factory. Socially, too, her position has changed. In the past she would have been considered "forward" to enter into conversation with two men to whom she had not been properly introduced.



Lumber Yard

Wang Chien

The overnight ride from Kaifeng brought us to Hsüchow where I made my final train change, getting the one coming down from Peking on its way to Shanghai. The smoothness with which the passengers were ushered through to the various platforms was something new to me. There were a number of attendants on hand when our train pulled in. As we stepped off, the north and south bound passengers were asked to gather at opposite sides of the platform. Since the northbound train was scheduled to arrive in a few minutes those passengers were ushered up the stairway and across the overpath first by the guides.

The loudspeaker on the platform announced that the Shanghai-bound train was due in 15 minutes and advised passengers to put down their luggage and be comfortable. Lunch wagons rolled up with hot tea, rolls, hard boiled eggs and candy.

Seated on some luggage next to me were several young men eating eggs and rolls. One of them stuffed an egg inside a roll and jokingly held it out to me, saying in English: "Egg sandwich, Mister?" I must have registered surprise because the whole group had a good laugh. My would-be host turned out to be an ex-waiter in a foreign restaurant in Shanghai. He was now an apprentice steam fitter. The group of them had just finished installing a steam turbine for the Sian Municipal Power Company and were on their way back to their home plant in Shanghai. We were soon talking shop and traveled the rest of the way to Shanghai together.

South of Hsüchow one passes from the wheat fields of the north to the rice paddies of South China. Water buffalo are used instead of horses, donkeys and oxen, while canals and sampans take the place of the roads and carts of the north. Even in the ancient methods of rice cultivation changes are underway. This could be seen as our train speeded by the long rows of people ankle-deep in the flooded fields planting rice shoots. Formerly it was each man for himself, now it is the whole neighborhood in mutual-aid teams moving across field after field working in harmony.

One of the small stops before crossing the Yangtze River is famous for its roast chicken, and farmers' wives stood alongside the station platform with baskets of crisp, brown chicken which passengers bought with relish. Our group was no exception and before the morning was over we had each eaten a whole chicken, supplemented by buns and washed down by hot tea which were always available from the waiters who passed through the cars.

Towards evening we pulled into Pukow and once again there were attendants to usher us through to the spick-and-span ferry for the 15-minute trip across the Yangtze to Nanking. Coming from the other side we saw the railway ferry which takes express trains directly across without unloading. One of my steamfitter friends remarked on the great damage done to the ferries and docks by the KMT just before they fled in 1949. Now it has been all repaired, but only with great effort.

At the Nanking station we had a meal and then went into the spacious modern waiting room and were promptly shown to one of the waiting lines for our train. The public-address system was playing a program of music of the Sinkiang national minorities. This was followed by a review of the travel regulations with the reasons why they were necessary for the common good. Included were the rules about carrying live fowl, combustibles and perishable goods. All this was repeated but in comedy verse accompanied by the popular rhythmic Peking *kuai ban*, complete with castanets, to the great amusement of the waiting passengers.

As we boarded the train for Shanghai I stood for a moment watching the train crew checking the undercarriage and coupling gear. The cars had roller bearing journals, so there were no journal boxes to pack, therefore I wondered what was going on. But they were going over the springs and main bolts of each truck, tapping each one with a hammer to detect looseness or broken parts. The men crawled under each car with flashlights and checked the brake linkages and finally each individual joint in the air hose couplings.

Such precaution was something I had never witnessed before. However, from that little scene one gets an idea of the methodical, painstaking care that goes into achieving the almost daily records announced in the newspapers of hundreds of thousand of kilometers traveled accident-free by model crews.

Early next morning we arrived in Shanghai. Over my breakfast of bacon and eggs I read in a foreign paper mailed in from Hongkong all about life in China, about how the economy was in chaos, about how Americans in China were either in jail or under house arrest and fearful for their lives and about the dire food shortage in Shanghai.

The Horror Weapon

THE people of the Far East well remember that the first atom bomb was dropped by the US on an Asian people. They also know that for more than two years the US airforce has been bent on exterminating another Asian people, the Koreans. One of the inhuman weapons used is napalm bombing; and the results are described in the following eye-witness accounts by Alan Winnington, London Daily Worker correspondent, and Wilfred Burchett, Paris Ce Soir correspondent. Winnington writes:

I HAVE visited many people who have been burned with this monstrous concoction — both new cases and old ones. The facts that I am going to give are horrifying but they must be told. People who may be shocked must try to imagine what it is like to see these sights and then to imagine their own loved ones or themselves as victims.

Napalm is jellified gasoline which splashes over a wide area, sticks to whatever it touches and goes on burning. When it sticks to the skin, it literally cooks the flesh and tissues below. Many people die horribly from the burns and shock, and still more survive as walking monstrosities sickened by their own images.

Napalm goes on working long after its first effects are healed—for how long is as yet not known. The area of the burns becomes a mass of vari-colored scar tissue which the victims constantly watch in terror for signs of new breaks. When scars break again, they are usually infected and yellow pus again starts to pour from them. Slowly they heal again in most cases, though in many they become chronic open wounds. When they reheal they draw up flesh so that scar area constantly contracts. The effect of this is to twist and warp the body, crippling the victim. The hands become drawn backward like the claws of birds, the eyelids are pulled up and down, leaving bulbous eyeballs staring, apparently terrified, from the wide red frames of the out-turned eyeball itself.

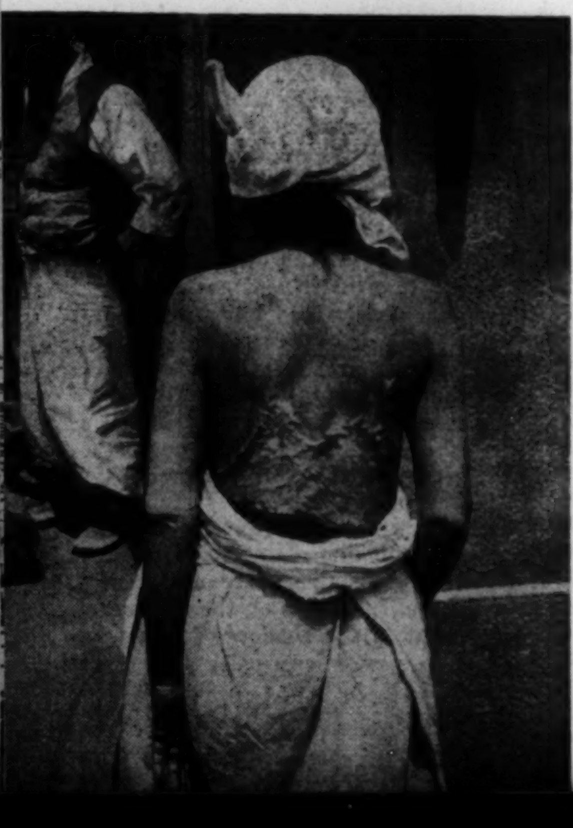
Many victims who can still see have little spots on the eyeball. That is the shadow of inevitable blindness. They know nothing can be done. The days when they can still see the world are irrevocably numbered.

The tragedy of the victims, especially women, when they first see their mutilations after healing cannot be described. Napalm scars never become painless. They always itch and burn, making sleep impossible for more than a short time. People burned on the face normally have to try to sleep with their eyes open since the eyelids will not close. In summer time the irritation of the scars drives the victims frantic for relief that cannot come. Burned little children become petulant, sleepless, impossible to soothe.

Australian airmen are reported to have adapted rockets to carry napalm. Rockets are often used for surprise attacks on villages using fast planes whose speed denies the villages any warning of approach. Napalm bombing is a monstrous, soul-destroying device that puts its user beyond the pale of human society.

* * *

AT any waterhole where children play, writes Wilfred Burchett, you can find boys and girls with great scars and still unhealed wounds, with muscles ruined and



Mrs. Kim Yang Sun was napalmed on May 29, 1951. Face, hands, feet and back were all burned. On her back is an enormous purple scar one foot wide by nine inches long raised almost a quarter inch from the surrounding flesh.

(Photo by Alan Winnington)

thick stiffened welts on the backs of their hands and tops of their feet, partly crippled.

Napalm sticks and burns the flesh below. Attempts to wipe it off simply transfer it to a new place with no effect on the old. Its primary use by the Americans has been against the civil population, for troops are normally protected by skilfully dug positions.

One young boy who was napalmed in Kaesong on November 21, 1950, is now 10 years old. Kim Choi Yun looks like a hideous worn-out old man — quite bald with a white scalp pitted and blotched with red and blue marks. His face is knotted and crinkled with discolored scar tissue and the flesh around his red-rimmed eyes has been so distorted that he has not shut his eyes since he was burned.

His handsome widowed mother told me he can sleep fitfully in a darkened room, but always with his eyes open. After he was burned it was four months before he could get up. He lay for two months between consciousness and death, with yellow pus pouring from his face and scalp.

"Only his youth saved him," she said. "He was such a good-looking boy. Now look. Who would think he must always be like this?"

I shall never forget the mother of little Kim Choi Yun, weeping as she held him to her. "Who will ever marry him?" she asked.

★

Kim Choi-yun, 10 year - old Korean boy interviewed by Wilfred Burchett. He has not been able to close his eyes for almost two years.

(Photo by Alan Winnington)

Our Korean Sisters

K. J. WEI

THE story of the women of Korea is no less heroic than that of their menfolk at the front. Their families broken up, their houses destroyed, nearly every woman has some kinsman in the armed forces. Some of these women are widowed, some have lost even their children. With much of their country laid waste by the Americans, these women have learned to adapt themselves to new circumstances and to carry on the fight against the invaders.

Scenes of destruction are everywhere, whether they look through a door or a window, or step into the street. These are the marks of war, the scars left by the inhuman bombings of civilian towns and cities by the US Airforce. Intended to intimidate the faint-hearted, the wanton bombings have only served to steel the determination of Korea's women, who are making ever greater contributions to their country's war of resistance.

All year around the women of the medical profession are active. Young nurses, medical kits strapped to their shoulders, go deep into the countryside to carry out inoculation campaigns. Along the main thoroughfares they have set up "shot stations" where everyone can get an inoculation. Nurses are daily on duty in the market places, checking and rechecking health certificates of food dealers.

In the education field, women take the lead. Their ardor and perseverance are constant sources of amazement to the newcomer. Village teachers lend a hand in field work in early spring and mid-autumn, when there is a great need for farm labor. I saw one woman teacher from a village school work on a large stretch of land for three days from sunrise to sunset. I have seen a whole team of them at

K. J. WEI is a member of the Chinese People's Volunteers who has spent the past year in Korea, serving in several different parts of the country.—Editor.

work during spring ploughing, ankle-deep in mud, planting the crops.

In the three schools in this area, only the headmaster is a man, and he is no longer young. Every day the teachers gather their students together from their homes, escort them to school and send them back home at the end of the day. In no way are they inferior to the male instructors who predominated before the war. These women teachers feel that they are bound to shoulder the responsibilities left them by the men gone off to war.

However, the greatest contribution being made by the women is in production. North Korea is a mountainous area, and the people must make the most of their hilly region. Cultivation in many places is on slopes which are sometimes as steep as 45 degrees. Every last parcel of arable land must be utilized. Farms stretch from the lowlands up into the hills. The soil is loose and stony in summer, and hard as rock in winter. The climate is either scorching hot or freezing cold; spring and autumn are very brief. Formerly, the men bore the brunt of the arduous labor needed to raise the crops, but now cultivation of the fields has become woman's work.

In the hilly region near my quarters three families come to cultivate a field every day which, in my country, no one would care to claim as his own. One family is made up of a

Korean women form the vast majority of the labor force in the rear today.

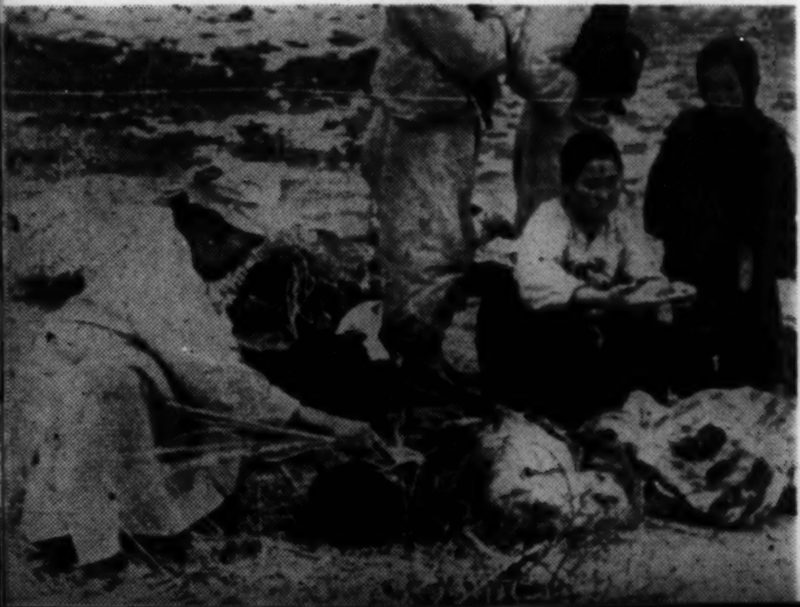
mother over 50 and in poor health, and two daughters around 20. The old woman's son is a driver at the front, her son-in-law was killed in action. Another family consists of a mother over 40 whose husband is at the front. She has an infant and two older children to look after. The third family has six members, three generations in all with the old folks in their seventies. The son and grandson are in the army. And this is how it is for thousands of Korean families today.

Activities for Korean women are not limited. Many are helping to transport vitally needed foodstuffs to market.

On every market day throngs of women stream along in bullock carts or with great bundles of goods perched atop their heads. One can see here and there an old man with a sack of beans or rice slung over the back of an ox, and sometimes children with baskets of peppers or turnips in their arms. But the crowd is overwhelmingly female. The women, infants on their backs, are on their way to market, to sell and to buy.

A mother of three children who has taken refuge in the small town where we are located formerly lived

Korean wives and mothers searching for their menfolk among the dead. In areas from which South Korean and American troops have been forced to retreat, huge burial grounds of murdered Korean civilians have been found.



Pupils in an orphanage established for children of Korean revolutionaries killed in the war.

in Sinuiju, just opposite the Northeast China city of Antung across the Yalu River. Her home was destroyed in an air raid early in the war. Gathering all the possessions she could salvage from the ruins, she brought her children here. Again the enemy struck and her new house was destroyed one year ago, and she herself barely escaped with her life. Last winter, I saw this staunch woman and her children crowded into a small room assigned her by the government. This spring, with the help of friends, she began to build a new house.

Even in this quiet town far to the north I have seen many young girls, widowed or orphaned, left to fend for themselves. They work hard. They fought against a threatened food shortage early this year, and they won. Their feet are those of dancers and they dance most gracefully—but it is in the fields that they willingly plant their feet now.

These women are heroic and they deserve our thanks! They are no less brave than their men. For with many a man, death has put the final stamp on his glorious sacrifice. But with the woman, the one left behind by the dead hero, she must take up the burden of life, made all the more difficult with the departure of her man. She must continue the struggle and raise her children in the face of a heartless enemy whose bombs and bullets make no distinction between man, woman and child.

Such is the strength of the Korean women, sisters in arms to the Chinese people. We Chinese, who have suffered the same oppression, cherish them deeply.

REVIVAL OF AN OLD ART

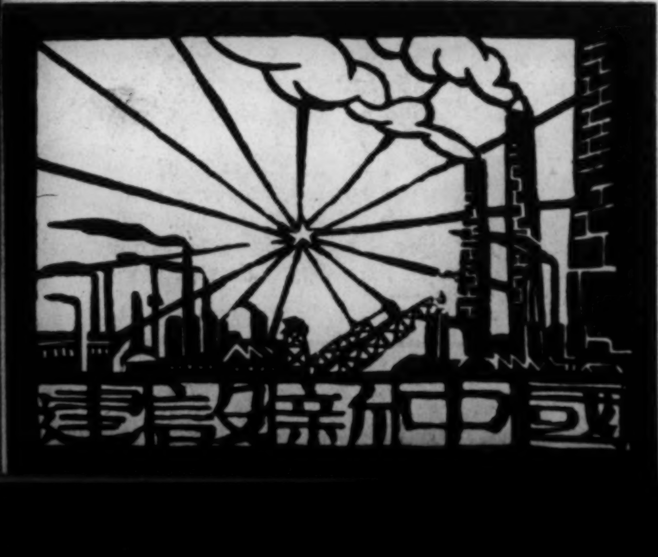
PAPER cut-outs have been used for centuries to decorate doors and windows in Chinese homes. Today, in new China, this folk art is becoming increasingly popular.

Formerly, each area had its typical patterns. In Kwangtung and South China the favorite cut-outs were of landscapes, dragons, boats and bridges. The Northwest peasant women decorated their windows with cut-outs of animals, horse riders and mythological figures.

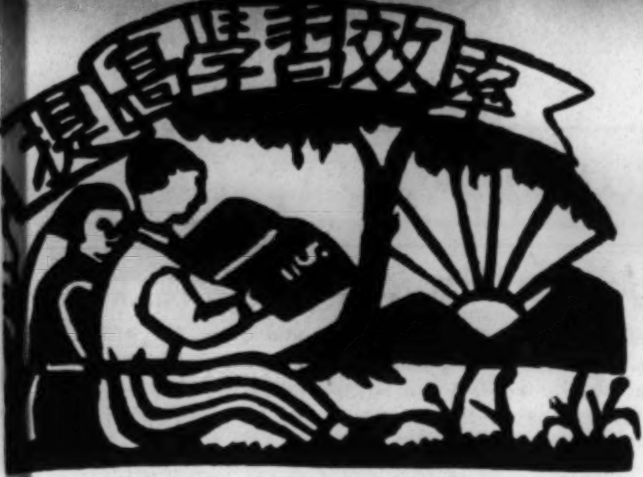
However, since liberation many artists have shown great interest in the development of this art. More and more cut-outs are dealing with new subjects, yet at the same time they retain the qualities which have made them such favorites of the peasants.

They have become extremely popular among middle school students where young teen-agers are turning out new designs instead of the old type of delicate flowers and birds. The making of paper cut-outs by the youngsters is being encouraged for it is a means of expressing their own creative talent and at the same time perpetuating an old folk art.

In paper cut-out work in the middle schools the students usually first study and criticize old ones before going on to their own creations. Most popular themes are: the war in Korea,



Industrialization is rapidly coming to new China.

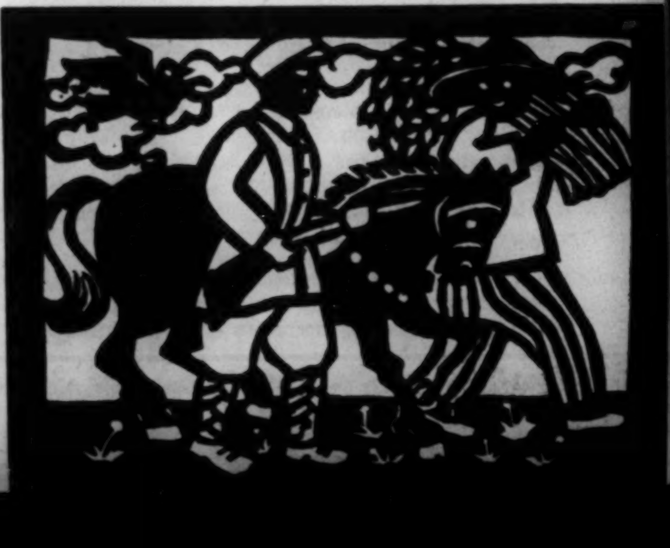


"Hsueh Hsi"—
Study.

building up of new China, workers in factories and peasants in the field, model workers and peasants, and numerous others which depict life in liberated China.

There are two standard methods of making paper cut-outs. One, familiar to children in the West, is to fold a paper into a small square and then cut with scissors. The other, and more popular in China today, is to cut the designs with a small knife which is sharpened on both edges. Cut-out artists do several at once tacking a number of sheets of thin bright colored paper over a form filled with hard clay.

The cut-outs on this and the facing page were made by students of the Second Municipal Girls' Middle School in Nanking.



Soldier and
peasant.

CHINA NOTES

Vast Irrigation Project

JUST north of Shanghai, China's engineers and peasants are cooperating to transform the northern part of Kiangsu province. In an area the size of Holland, they are rearranging the entire natural water supply in a way which eliminates an over supply in some places and a shortage in others.

Alkaline soil is being washed to clear 600,000 hectares of land which will provide room for tens of thousands of families to settle and grow cotton for Shanghai's expanding textile industry. A 500-kilometer forest shelter belt is being built to give these new cotton fields protection against Pacific Ocean typhoons.

This present vast irrigation project is an outgrowth of the Huai River flood control project. In size, as a single connected irrigation system, it is one of the biggest ever undertaken anywhere in the world. By the end of June, peasants and engineers had excavated a canal from the Huai River to the sea 170 kilometers long and from 60 to 140 meters wide. Cutting through sand and rock, with a minimum of high-powered machinery, they have dug a channel in seven months nearly equal in size to the entire Suez Canal which took 10 years. In this short time, 72,000,000 cubic meters of earth were moved.

The canal is the key to the entire project. By 1955, when all the big inter-connecting and smaller criss-crossing irrigation channels are built throughout the region, a volume of earthwork three times that of the Suez Canal will have been handled.

Whereas previously only 150,000 hectares of land had enough water—and sometimes an over supply—by the completion of the project, 1,720,000 hectares of rice and cotton fields will be assured a regular water supply. It is estimated that the rice output will be doubled, increasing by more than 1,000,000 tons annually. A crop of 110,000 tons of raw cotton will be gathered from the new fields.

The number of secondary works springing up from so vast a project are many. Nearly 1,000 culverts are being built to lead the water from main to lesser channels. Locks are being installed to help transportation which will also benefit from the new network. Water gates are being erected near the coast at the mouths of small rivers to prevent intrusion of sea water.

Whole new villages and cotton farms are being set up to accommodate the newcomers already flowing into this formerly deserted coastal region. Plans call for making use of the abundant water supply for future hydro-electric power stations to electrify farms and villages.

The first stage of the project was undertaken by 1,300,000 peasants, who were paid at prevailing rates, and have returned to their villages after their seven-month stint on the project. They have already harvested their summer crops, and from next year, they will see the results of their labor in the form of extra rice and cotton yields. This winter a new army of peasants will carry the work one step further.

New China's Foreign Trade

AGREEMENTS with Poland, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Hungary and Rumania reflect the growing trade of new China. In addition, China has also signed trade agreements with British, French and West German businessmen who attended the International Economic Conference in Moscow in April.

An example of the trade with Eastern Europe was the July 11 agreement between China and Poland which was signed in Warsaw. China will export metallic ores, cotton, graphite, raw materials for textiles, leather, cereals, tobacco, tea, peanuts and other commodities. Poland will export metal products, metals, various kinds of machinery, chemicals, paper and other commodities.

The agreement with the West German group Ostag Limited of Bonn provides for a trade exchange valued at US$37,500,000. Exports from China will include ores and non-ferrous metals, soya beans, oil seeds, corn, eggs and egg products, skins, hides and furs, bristles, cotton clippings and essential oils. West Germany will export chemicals, synthetics and paper, tool-making and other machines, instruments, textiles and pharmaceutical products.

Rapid Growth of Cooperatives

IN less than three years membership in cooperatives in China has gone up from around 15,000,000 to 106,000,000. Present membership represents an increase of 21 percent over the end of last year when there were 39,000 cooperative societies throughout the country.

The rapid growth of cooperatives has been tremendous in the newly-liberated areas where land reform was completed recently. In Central-South China, for instance, during 1950 and 1951 membership soared almost 300 times. There are now more than 30,000,000 members in this area, and millions more are expected to join by the end of the year.

China's Budget Balanced

NOT only was China's 1951 budget balanced but there also was a budgetary surplus, according to a statement by Minister of Finance Po I-po on August 6. Announcing that the nation's revenue for 1951 exceeded its expenditure, the finance minister submitted to the Central People's Government Council the 1952 budget, which estimates an increase in revenue of 41.66 percent and appropriations 55.52 percent greater than in 1951.

Addressing the council, Po I-po pointed out that the nation had fulfilled ahead of schedule the three conditions set by Chairman Mao Tse-tung for a financial and economic turn for the better. The conditions were: Completion of land reform, proper readjustment of existing industry and commerce, and large-scale economy and reduction in expenditure by government organizations.

The finance minister pointed out that China's 1951 budget was made at a time when the Chinese mainland was being threatened by US military forces in Korea and on Taiwan. Despite this and the fact that the unification of China's financial and economic work had been under way less than a year, the nation's economy and finances developed at an unprecedented rate, enabling production to be restored, the budget to be balanced and prices to be stabilized.

The huge expansion of the cooperative movement has brought with it better cooperative services. Besides bringing the peasants much needed supplies of fertilizer and farm tools, the cooperatives have made for prosperity through constantly widening the market outlets for grain, industrial crops and handicrafts. This year all state cotton purchases will be handled through cooperatives.

By purchasing raw materials and grain for the state, cooperatives have become a vital arm of the state-owned economy, and now reach everywhere, even in the more remote border regions. In industrial crop regions the peasants have come to depend largely on the cooperatives for their marketing. Cooperatives have introduced something new for China: standardization, the elimination of speculation, and the assurance of good markets and favorable prices.

By April of this year there were nearly 10,000,000 consumer cooperative members. More than 70 percent of the working people, in China's major cities have joined. With prices averaging at least five percent lower than prevailing market prices, these cooperatives have created a real rise in the workers' purchasing power.

There are 1,076 producer cooperatives in China which serve to link up independent handicrafts. They have been formed chiefly in textiles, paper-making, bricks and tiles and farm tools.

The cooperative movement has received support from the central government in the form of bank loans and lowered or waived taxes. Railways and state trading companies have given cooperatives high priority in freight shipments and supply of goods.

Workers' Welfare in Northeast

BLOCKS of workers' apartments, sanatoria, bath-houses, barber shops, creches and modern laundries are growing up around Dairen's steel mills, oil refineries and chemical plants. These new establishments in this port city reflect the large-scale improvements in workers' welfare in the industrial heart of new China, the Northeast.

Every government mine and mill has worked out its own program for workers' welfare. For example, one of the nation's largest coal fields at Fushun plans to build houses for 1,400 miners' families and 3,500 single miners, five canteens, 16 bath-houses, 19 rest centers, six creches and two kindergartens.

Sanitation and safety measures are constantly improved. More air conditioning units were installed in factories during the summer. At the same time, rank-and-file workers are encouraged to submit their urgent needs and suggestions, on the basis of which annual welfare plans and labor protection are drawn up.

* * *

MORE and cheaper electricity is now available to the public in the Northeast because of maximum utilization of existing power installations. In an effort to speed the industrialization of this area, overhaul has been cut from one-quarter to one-third and thousands of additional kilowatts of electricity will be available this winter when the power demand hits its peak.

Factory work schedules are so arranged as to make additional kilowatts of electricity available in the winter. Seven out of 10 power stations are using low grade coal for fuel. Fuel accounts for nearly half of production costs. Northeast workers, through production emulation campaigns, have pledged to create extra wealth in 1952 sufficient to build seven 100,000-kilowatt power stations.

More Children in School

PRIMARY education in new China has made rapid progress in the three years since liberation. Under the Kuomintang, less than 40 percent of the nation's children could attend primary school. Today, hundreds of thousands are attending schools. According to 1952's overall education plan, 80 percent of the school-age children will be in primary school in the next five years, and within 10 years all children will be going to primary school.

Figures show the rapid build-up in the nation's primary schools and student body. In 1946, the peak year for school enrolment under the Kuomintang, there were 26,000,000 children in primary schools throughout the country. In June 1951, two years after liberation, there were 29,336,000 primary school pupils. By the end of 1951 the figure had risen to 37,000,000 pupils, and by mid-1952 there were 43,000,000 primary school students. In the earlier liberated areas, such as the Northeast and North China, from 65 to 75 percent of the school-age children were attending school by the middle of this year.

Not only are the number of primary schools and students increasing but there has been another outstanding development. For the first time children of workers and peasants are able to go to school. For instance, in Northeast and North China more than 80 percent of the primary school students are from families of workers and peasants. In many cities, schools have opened special classes for children of workers. The children of workers and peasants, who make up the vast majority of the population, today enjoy priority in education.

One of the features of new China's education is the fact that it is available to all. For example, the children of the onetime looked-down-upon national minorities are now going to school in their areas. Altogether there are 9,100 schools for minorities plus another 4,860 for both minorities and Han children. These schools are being attended by more than 943,000 students. In the Autonomous Region of Inner Mongolia, there are now more than 3,700 primary schools with an enrolment of 307,000, which is three times the highest previous figure.

As a result of the sharp increase in primary schools the nation is faced with a crying need for more teachers. The recent National Teachers' Training Conference, sponsored by the Ministry of Education, issued a call for the training of 1,000,000 teachers in the next five years.

In addition to the increased number of teachers' colleges and normal schools, many special training classes for future elementary teachers have been established in the large cities and throughout the different provinces.

FREE MEDICAL TREATMENT

BEGINNING in July free medical treatment for all government workers has gone into effect. Under this free medical care system, all medical expenses are borne by the government. This system had been carried out in some of the areas and departments of the old liberated areas, factories and mines, and areas inhabited by national minorities. With the gradual improvement in economic conditions, broad application of this policy to all government workers has become possible.

New China's Stamps

Duncan C. Lee

SINCE the founding of the People's Republic of China on October 1, 1949, the post-office has issued many series of commemorative and special stamps. In addition to the colorful series of 1949 and 1950 (see the *Review*, January 1951), more interesting stamps have appeared during 1951 and this year.

Six main series were issued in 1951. The first, of three stamps, commemorated the 30th anniversary of the Chinese Communist Party. A series of three triangular stamps for the defense of world peace was the second to be issued on this theme. The National Emblem Series consisted of five stamps. Two stamps were issued to mark the 15th anniversary of the death of China's famous writer, Lu Hsun. A series of two stamps commemorated the 100th anniversary of the Taiping Revolution, and last, a special issue of four stamps concerned land reform,

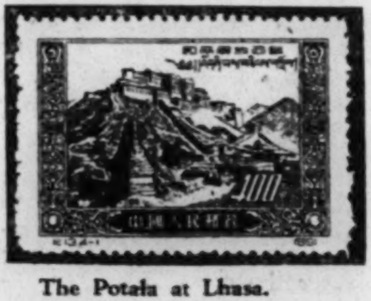
Much care is taken with the choice and execution of the designs for these stamps. The design must clearly and fully express the historical event concerned and must be educational. For each series, designers spend considerable time in research, and the completed design is based upon documents or concrete objects. The theme once decided upon, each step, from preliminary drawings to the finished plates, is fully discussed by all concerned.

Most of the stamps issued in new China commemorate historical events, while others are special issues. Each type bears the appropriate Chinese character. Stamps are not gummed, and are printed on unwatermarked paper, which is now of better quality. The recent tendency has been to use varied designs in each series.

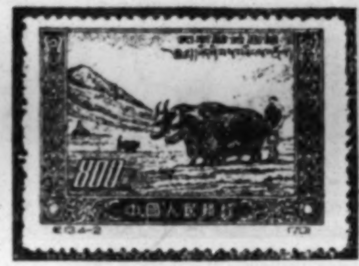
Recent issues include one marking the peaceful liberation of Tibet. It consists of four stamps, the first two bearing an engraving of the famous palace, the Potala, and the words, "Peaceful liberation of Tibet" in Chinese and Tibetan. The other two, with the same characters, represent a Tibetan farmer ploughing with two yaks against a background of high mountains.

Tibet's liberation, commemorated by this series of stamps, was peacefully achieved as a result of discussions in April-May 1951 in Peking between representatives of the Central People's Government and the Dalai Lama and Panchen Ngoertehni. Tibet was the last part of China's mainland to be liberated.

A special stamp issue was devoted to the series of physical exercises currently being broadcast, in which schools and government and other organizations take part. The series consists of 40 stamps in 10 sections, each stamp of a denomination of Y400. The series was issued to help popularize the movement for better health. Last spring, the government called upon all office and shop workers to take up morning exercises, and the Peking *People's Daily* published a chart of the various movements of the drill, which were later broadcast, accompanied by music.



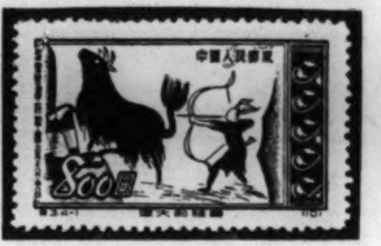
The Potala at Lhasa.



Tibetan farmer plowing with yaks.

A beautiful set of four stamps, using the famous Tunhuang Cave designs, was issued as the first of a projected series on the theme of the "Great Motherland of China." Each stamp has the same denomination, Y800. The first, in olive green, depicts a hunter taking aim with his bow at an animal resembling a bull; the second, in brown, shows two women bearing food, each accompanied by two attendants; the third, in blue-green, is of two figures flying to heaven against a background of stars; and the last, in purple, pictures a rampant dragon.

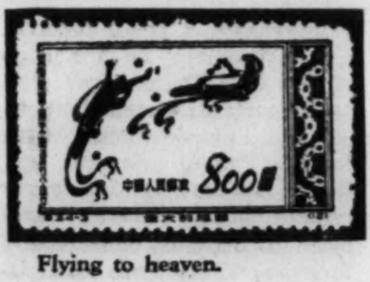
Tunhuang, a small town in Kansu province on the edge of the Gobi Desert, was once an important communications center, linking China with India, Persia, Greece and Rome. Its nearly 500 caves contain great cultural treasures in Buddhist murals and frescoes which were commis-



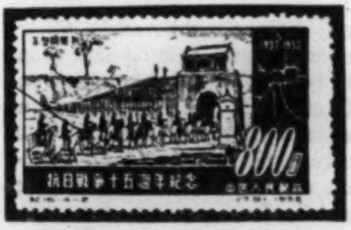
Tunhuang mural of a hunter.

sioned by devoted travelers who thus hoped to ensure the success of their ventures. While mainly on religious themes, the paintings show the everyday pursuits of the people up to the 10th century A.D. Four of the best and most representative designs were chosen for this series of stamps.

A commemorative issue, brought out on July 7, marked the 15th anniversary of the beginning of the anti-Japanese war, when Japanese troops attacked at Marco Polo Bridge (Lukouchiao). The series also consists of four stamps, each of Y800 denomination. The first (blue) pictures the bridge; the second (green) shows Pinghsing Pass, where the People's Army achieved a famous victory over the Japanese army in the early stage of the war; the third (dark brown) shows the People's Army welcomed by the people; and the fourth (red) shows Chairman Mao and Commander-in-Chief Chu Teh poring over a map and discussing strategy. A wide border to the right of each stamp shows Peking and environs in outline.



Flying to heaven.



Anniversary of Sino-Japanese War.

The latest issue, put out on August 1, commemorates the 25th anniversary of the founding of the PLA. The series also consists of four stamps of Y800 denomination. The first, in red, depicts an army man, a sailor and a flyer against a background of a battleship and planes. Underneath appears the emblem of the PLA and the dates 1927—1952. The second (green), third (lavender) and fourth (light brown) feature an infantryman, sailor and flyer respectively.

Special institute provides

EDUCATION FOR MINORITIES

Hsu Chien

CHINA is a nation of many nationalities. Of the 60 or more different national groups, the Han account for approximately 90 percent of China's population. For centuries the minority nationalities, such as the Tibetans, Mongolians, Yi, Miao and a host of others, were oppressed so heavily by the ruling class of the Han majority that many were on the way to extinction.

Victims of the policy of "divide and rule," these people were deprived of their land and wealth, driven off into the nation's most remote and least productive regions, encouraged to feud among themselves, and made the scapegoats of racial prejudice. Second-class citizens under the Kuomintang, the national minorities were the most backward of China's peoples, their various cultures near the point of obliteration.

Liberation has changed all this. Relations between the Han and the nation's minority nationalities, as well as relations among the nationalities themselves, have undergone a radical change. In place of animosity and oppression, equality, fraternity and mutual aid are the basis for a new life for the minority peoples. Unlike the old days, the development of minority customs and the use of minority languages are encouraged.

Since the birth of new China on October 1, 1949, great efforts have been made in carrying out regional autonomy in areas where national minorities are concentrated and setting up democratic coalition governments in those areas inhabited by different nationality groups. For example, in the Tibetan Autonomous Region of Sikang province, minority people, who were barred under KMT law from official positions, now hold jobs in all government offices. In Kangting, the capital city of Sikang, nine out of every 10 seats in the People's Representatives' Conference are held by Tibetans.

Because of the long years of discrimination the educational level of the minority people has been low even in a nation such as old China which, at the time Chiang Kai-shek was chased out, had an illiteracy rate of 80 percent. Thus, great emphasis has been placed on setting up schools for minorities.

In order successfully to carry out regional autonomy and other tasks in the areas inhabited by the minority peoples, the central government is training large numbers of minority nationals for government jobs. In June 1951, the Government Administration Council passed a special bill calling for the establishment of a Central Institute for Nationalities in Peking, with branches at Tihua, Lanchow, Wuchang, Canton, Nanning, Chengtu, Kweiyang, and Kunming, with a total enrolment of more than 3,500 students. In addition, there are to be a number of special schools and short-term training classes set up in regions inhabited by minority peoples.

THE Central Institute for Nationalities, headed by Ulanfu, vice-chairman of the Commission of Nationalities' Affairs, was opened on June 11, 1951, in Peking. At the time of its inauguration the institute had an enrolment of about 300 students coming from 24 different provinces and belonging to 33 national-

Students from Central Institute for National Minorities parading in their native costumes.

One of the buildings of the Central Minorities Institute.

ities. Plans call for an eventual enrolment of several thousand students.

At present the institute consists of three training classes for future administrative and military workers. It contains a language department which teaches *Kuoyu*, the national language, and various dialects and minority languages. A few of the students in the language department are Han youths who are being trained to work in the minority peoples' areas.

The great majority of the student body is familiar with the national language and only a few of them have had to depend on interpreters in their first few months. Students come from a variety of backgrounds: peasants from the Southwest, herdsmen from the Northwest, religious workers from Tibetan minorities, and persons holding hereditary official posts in different minority regions.

Required courses at the institute are: an introduction to the general conditions of the country, social, economic, political, geographical, etc.; fundamentals of China's international relations and the Sino-Soviet alliance; a short course in Chinese history, including a brief history of the various nationalities; the Common Program (China's basic law); the Chinese Communist Party; the history of social development; and the People's Liberation Army.

Elective courses include: physical culture, hygiene, music, dancing, and so forth. Language students are expected to learn a given language or dialect in a couple of years.

In addition to regular classes, students attend lectures or listen to reports given by government leaders and experts which bear on subjects being studied. At the same time, in their daily lives, the students learn to practice equality, unity and mutual aid among themselves. Emphasis is placed on respect for the customs of various nationalities by all. This is deemed necessary, not only in understanding their fellow students but in cultivating the student's self-confidence regarding his own nationality. This principle is carried out in connec-

Minorities Gain

ON August 9, 1952, the Central People's Government promulgated the laws regarding the carrying out of regional autonomy in the areas inhabited by minority groups.

By the end of June 1952, altogether 130 autonomous regions of various levels had been set up in the country involving nearly 4,500,000 minority people.

The establishment of autonomous regions will enable the minority people to organize their own governments and manage their own affairs, The unit of an autonomous region may be a *hsien*, a district, a county, or a special region, based on the size of the minority's population and area.

An autonomous region will manage its own finances, develop its own economy, culture and education and build its own public security forces and militia.

Some idea of the benefits to the minority people from regional autonomy can be seen from China's first established autonomous region in Inner Mongolia set up in 1947. During the past five years, great progress has been achieved in the development of its economy, culture and education. In farming areas, bumper crops have been protion with teaching materials, national festivals of the different minorities, costumes, diet, and so on.

Even a brief visit to the institute is most impressive. Very few of the many newly established educational institutions in the nation's capital can boast such fine buildings and spacious grounds as does the Central Institute for Nationalities. It is situated in the suburbs which have long been noted for Peking's finest parks and best known institutes of higher learning.

The grounds cover an area of more than 20 hectares and contain seven large modern buildings including an auditorium capable of seating 1,600 people. As the school expands more buildings will be put up.

One enthusiastic girl student I talked with told me that the institute is to be developed into a regular university enrolling more than 10,000 students. This prediction may be somewhat high at present in the light of the comparatively small number of minority people with the educational background needed to enroll. Nevertheless, there is no doubt that as the government's educational program gets into full swing among the minority nationalities all over China there will be a steady increase in the number of students attending the institute.

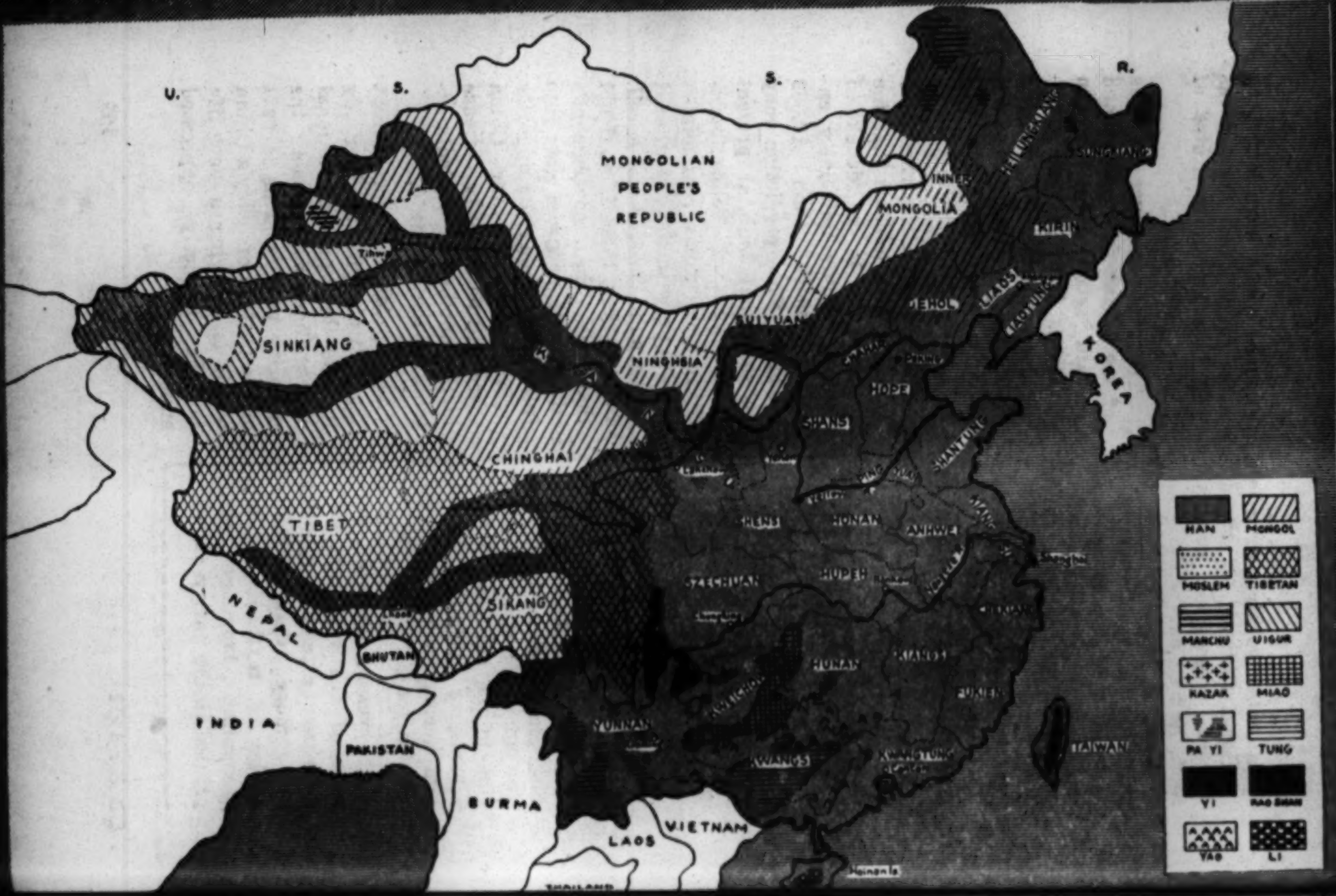
The students at present at the institute will soon be ready to take their part in national construction work among the minority peoples. This is part of the pattern of today's China which is bringing a new life to the formerly oppressed minorities.

Autonomy

duced, while in herding districts, livestock production has more than doubled since pre-liberation days.

Progress in the field of education has been even more rapid. By 1951, the number of primary schools was well over 3,000, with a total enrolment of more than 300,000 students. In addition to the existing 12 high schools, a technical school and normal college were set up this year.

At present, over 61 percent of the schoolage children are attending schools; and more than 300,000 copies of textbooks in the Mongolian language were printed in the past year.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FACTS ABOUT CHINA'S MINORITIES

ACCORDING to preliminary figures, China has a minority population of approximately 40,000,000, representing some 60 different nationalities, who live in an area covering more than half of the country. By the beginning of the year, 113 autonomous regions had been formed as well as 165 united minority people's local democratic governments.

A rough break-down of the national minority population shows that there are about 6,300,000 in Northwest China including Uigurs, Moslems, Kazaks, Tunghsiangs, Mongols, Russians and Manchus.

The more than 9,000,000 minority population in Central-South China includes Tungs, Miaos, Yaos, Moslems, Lis and T'ungs.

In the Southwest there are about 20,000,000, including 4,000,000 Tibetans in Tibet, Sikang, Yunnan and west Szechuen provinces; about 3,000,000 Yis in Sikang, south Szechuen, Yunnan and Kweichow; about 2,000,000 Miaos in Kweichow and Yunnan; about 1,600,000 Chung Chia in Kweichow; about 1,000,000 Moslems in Yunnan; about 600,000 Mings in Yunnan; 300,000 to 400,000 Tai's in Yunnan and several other small groups in Yunnan and Kweichow, each with not more than 300,000 people.

In the autonomous region of Inner Mongolia the population totals about 2,300,000 people.

Letter from Wuhu

Hubert S. Liang

PROSPERITY has only recently come to Wuhu, a bustling Yangtze River city in southern Anhwei province less than 200 miles directly west of Shanghai. In the past the city suffered under the maladministration and corruption of early Kuomintang rule, later under the oppression of the Japanese during the war and then again under the Kuomintang after VJ Day.

Since its liberation in April 1949, Wuhu has become one of the ranking cities of the province and now has a population of a quarter of a million. It has direct connections with Nanking and Shanghai by boat and train and is linked to interior port cities such as Anking and Hankow by the Yangtze River. A network of highways connects the city with the surrounding hinterland.

In addition to its commercial importance, Wuhu is also becoming an educational center. Anhwei University moved here from Anking immediately after Wuhu's liberation; a Teachers' Normal School and training institute for government workers, both of which were set up since liberation; a school for nurses; and a host of elementary and high schools form the foundation for the ever-expanding educational facilities of this city.

From the physical aspect alone there is a sharp contrast between pre-liberation Wuhu and the present day city. Old Wuhu boasted only one stone-paved street alongside of which ran numerous scattered and muddy roads. Today there are a number of concrete streets whose quality compares favorably with the main thoroughfares found in Shanghai. There are also many well looked after hard-surfaced streets.

Building construction is high on the list of physical improvements in Wuhu. A concrete bridge is on its way to spanning the river which divides the east and west sections of the city. A number of big buildings are under construction throughout Wuhu. Some will be department stores where products from all over China will be sold. Some will be office buildings and others hotels. One of these, when completed, will contain offices and dormitories for several hundred people.

Throughout the city large and small bookstores, filled with magazines, newspapers and books are always packed. Night schools for factory and shop workers are flourishing. One night school on the campus of Anhwei University, which is conducted jointly by members of the university's educational workers' union and members of the department of education, has an enrollment of nearly 500. Recently an exhibition center was opened on one of the city's main streets and it was jammed day and night — another sign of the growing interest of the population in culture and education.

Since liberation crime in Wuhu has fallen to almost the vanishing point. Street fights and brawls, a common occurrence in the old days, are giving way to more rational behavior: self-criticism, self-examination and discussion. Only the other day I heard a worker remark to a comrade: "Old Wang made an awful mistake, he ought to severely criticize himself." At the railroad station and at the wharfs voluntary "service corps" have been organized to help passengers free of charge.

One of the chief effects of the "Wu Fan" movement (aimed at bringing an end to such ancient evils among businessmen as bribery of officials, tax evasion, stealing of government property, cheating the government by supplying sub-standard products, and ferreting out economic information for speculation) has been the general price drop. At the same time it has led to the raising of moral standards among the businessmen and shopkeepers.

Just as in any other city in China, those who have reaped the largest benefits of liberation in Wuhu are the majority —the workers, who are recognized as the leading class in China, secure in their jobs and respected by their fellow men.

THE story of Chow Chin-feng, a girl working in the Wuhu Cotton Mill, typifies the new freedom and equality enjoyed by women today.

Born of a poor family, Chow worked alongside her mother and sister in a match factory at the age of seven. When she was 13 she was already a servant, and at 17 she worked in a printing shop. During all those years she was never able to earn enough to cover her bare needs and she remained sickly and undernourished.

After VJ Day she found a job in the Wuhu Cotton Mill. However, there was no visible improvement over the past when the Japanese were in control. Following liberation, however, there were marked changes. There was a new attitude toward workers and it was not long before Chow Chin-feng began to take an increasingly active part in her factory. She began to blossom forth and came up with inventions of several devices which have meant a large saving of both labor and money for the mill. Last year she was chosen a model worker in her mill.

A few short years ago Chow Chin-feng was looked upon by the old society as just another drudge working in a factory. This year she attended the May Day celebrations in Peking as a workers' representative from Anhwei province. The story of this girl from Wuhu has been repeated all over the country and signifies one of the many changes for the people of new China.

Foreigners' old Race Course is now People's Square

Sign of the Times

MA TAO-HSIEN

ON August 27, 1951, Shanghai's century-old symbol of foreign imperialism, the former Race Course, was taken over by order of the government and returned to its rightful owners, the people. The Race Course, former social and gambling center for Shanghai's foreign population and, later on, the compradores, has now been renamed "The People's Square."

The grounds, with an area of nearly 520 *mou* (about 86 acres), were the final result of the imperialists' demands for an exclusive place for their gambling and other pastimes. In its heyday, the Race Course was a center of high society; but the brilliant crowd at race meets ignored the few humble grave mounds that remained in the park, evidence of the unequal battle put up by the original Chinese tenants of the land who were sacrificed to the imperialist need for a place to stretch the legs of blooded horses and play at bowls.

The history of the Race Course reflected the tremendous expansion of foreign influence and enrichment at the expense of the Chinese people. Foreign accounts smugly relate the "simple history of the Recreation Fund, which reflects the greatest credit on the early residents in the settlement." Simple, indeed; the simple process of profiteering by the vast increase in land values and of driving out the peasants from the land they coveted.

IN 1843, Shanghai was forced to become a treaty port, and within a few years there was a race course on Nanking Road. Land values had been shooting up, and a group of British fortune hunters had forced the Manchu Taotai to sell them the land at a low price. This was the "First Park."

Land values continued to climb, and the "First Park"

An old picture of the Race Course taken on a racing day. The Foreign YMCA and the Pacific Hotel are shown in the background.

was sold, the proceeds then being used to buy land at the present site of Wing On's for another track. This land, too, was sold in 1860 for nearly 50,000 taels, which became the "Recreation Fund."

During the Taiping Revolution, the revolutionists clashed with the British and Manchu troops at the Tibet Road Bridge. The revolutionists were defeated, and as one of the fruits of successful intervention, the British staked out a claim for the next—and last—race track. In 1861 the British leased a strip of land at the site they had selected, 60 feet wide and a mile long, which, together with another short strip, totaled about 50 *mou*. Peasants still lived in the 466 *mou* enclosed by the track.

That the process was not easy is revealed by the words of foreign writers. In 1921, one historian said, "Much difficulty was experienced in securing the necessary land for the New Park. The farmers objected as usual, and Fukienese malcontents caused an infinity of trouble, and even anxiety." Trouble and anxiety for the British, and grave mounds for the peasants!

The writer goes on to say that "one of the drawbacks of the New Park was the continued existence of a village in the middle of it, and when in the early 'sixties a move was made to the present course, care was taken to purchase not only the whole of the land but the buildings as well so that a clear view . . . might be possible." But again, the purchase was neither simple nor without duress.

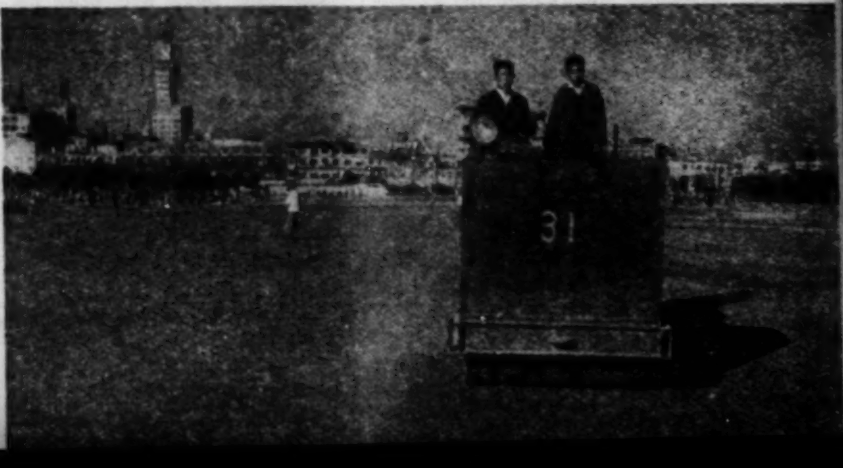
The organizers of the Race Club proceeded to draw up "leases" with the peasants, by which they could sell their land only to the Club, and which prohibited any further building of houses within the enclosure. The little village of some 70 cottages was thus doomed to extinction so that the foreigners would not have to look at it during their race meetings, which were described as "local picnics on an extended scale with some little betting as a stimulus to friendly rivalry."

However, when sales to the Club proved too slow, the British, backed by the complaisant Manchu authorities, used threats and began to force the peasants to sell their land, using the "Recreation Fund." In 1863 the enraged peasants were thus driven out at the bargain price of 25 taels per *mou*, and the promise of a further 125 taels per *mou*. The promised payment never materialized, and the British, having thus successfully swindled the people of their property, proceeded to elaborate their playground. Another writer gives the process away by stating that "there was some trouble and rioting over its acquisition, and the Taotai of the day had to issue a proclamation asserting the right of foreigners to acquire the land."

By the 'nineties, Shanghai was supporting a horde of foreign profiteers. One writer says that "young griffins would start their working day on the race course, exercising their Mongolian ponies in the fresh morning breeze before they went to work." He bewails the fact that amusements were limited, but that one of the standard entertainments were the races.

"Track meets were held twice a year," he says. Three full days were devoted to the big event, and the race course became the rendezvous for everybody who wanted to be seen. The taipans closed their offices, and the ladies had to have new dresses—three new dresses, one for each day. . . . There were no bookmakers,

Roller at work on the new People's Square being built on the site of the old Race Course.



and one-fourth of the totalizator's income was used for the upkeep of the establishment." It must be noted that, until 1909, if any compradores "wanted to be seen," they were not admitted. The "No Chinese" sign was taken down then only in order to make more money.

The gay fashionable throngs were dispersed with the outbreak of the Pacific war, and when the Japanese occupied Shanghai they used the Race Course as a military camp. After VJ Day, it was leased to the US Army as a "club," where the officers and troops of the new imperialism played tennis, drank and attended showings of Hollywood films.

In the summer of 1951 the former Race Course was leased for the Native Products Exhibition, which was a tremendous success and betokened the new era for the park which began when it was officially taken over in August that year. But among the "old China hands" the old ideas die hard; when someone suggested to a British woman of the old school that the Exhibition was worth seeing, she drew herself up indignantly and passionately exclaimed, "What? After they've taken over *our* Race Course? Never!"

The infamous history of the former Race Course, marked by imperialist oppression and stained with Chinese blood, is now only a dark memory. It now belongs to the Chinese people, who have proudly paraded through it during national celebrations. Plans are afoot to install more facilities for games and sports, and the grandiose buildings formerly housing the Race Club administration offices now house exhibitions of art and handicrafts, the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association's movie theater and Shanghai's new National Library.

The government's historical order, returning the park to its rightful owners, symbolized the final destruction of foreign imperialistic influence in Shanghai. The People's Square enters a new era of providing for all the people a place for sport, relaxation and culture in the heart of new Shanghai.

Since early June work has been going on in setting up a big park in the northern section of the People's Square. Scheduled to be completed before October 1, for the third anniversary of National Day, the new park will take up an area of 225 *mou of* land, or three-fifths of the total area of People's Square. When completed it will be the third largest park in Shanghai.

The new park will include a music hall, a swimming pool, a spacious recreation ground and a large pavilion, as well as a children's playground.

INTERNATIONAL NOTES

"Resettlement" in Malaya

MALAYA'S rich resources notwithstanding, living conditions of the people in this colony have drastically deteriorated as a result of the British policy of forcing 500,000 Malayans and Chinese to move into "resettlement camps."

This has been admitted by the British authorities themselves in a White Paper published on June 11 this year. The White Paper shows that the burning of many villages, the seizure of land and the moving of tens of thousands of peasants to "resettlement camps for security purposes" have seriously affected agriculture and the well-being of the population. In addition to the people being forcibly ejected from their land and homes, grain prices have shot up and many rubber plantations have ceased production. Figures show that coarse grain acreage in Malaya in 1951 was 30 percent below 1948, when the war began. Wage cuts and unemployment in the rubber industry are on the increase.

The White Paper also indicated that the present inflation in the Federated States had been brought on by the "resettlement" policy.

On the pretext of cutting off food supplies to the Malayan National Liberation Army, the British in Malaya have forced villages to move into camps, as part of the ill-fated Briggs Plan put into force in 1951. Although this plan for ending the war with a British victory has long been discarded, the "resettlement" policy is still being adhered to in an effort to terrorize the people of Malaya.

A new effort of Britain's "strong man" in Malaya, Sir Gerald Templer, to defeat the liberation movement was his order calling for "the drafting of labor to carry out emergency defense work." (*AP*, Kuala Lumpur, June 11.) Templer decreed that the prime minister and resident commissioner of every state and settlement "can order any able-bodied person to undertake protective measures against 'acts of terrorism' or repair damage affecting the well-being of Malayans." Those refusing to obey this order are subject to imprisonment.

On June 19, Templer, on a visit to London, was forced to admit: "I can promise you no speedy solution" to the fighting in Malaya (*AP*, London). On July 15, the president of the All-Malaya Chinese Mining Association stated that there was no improvement in the "fight against Communist terrorism" during the past year (*AP*, Kuala Lumpur). According to *Reuter* on July 31, Colonial Secretary Lyttelton told the House of Commons in London that 5,081 persons had been jailed in Malaya during 1952 under emergency regulations.

OPPOSITION to the government's war against the Malayan people has been growing among the people of Britain. At a meeting commemorating the fourth anniversary of the launching of the war in Malaya, the London Women's Assembly on June 15 pointed out that the intensified repression being carried out by Templer was similar to the Japanese methods during

Construction in Viet-Nam

WHILE the Viet-Nam people carry on the fight to rid their country of French colonialism they are simultaneously making great efforts at building up the liberated areas. One of their successes has been scored in the field of water conservancy.

Despite the hazards of war, great emphasis is being placed on building and repairing dikes needed for flood prevention. In the Phuc district in Vinhphuc province in north Viet-Nam, in spite of daily enemy bombing and shelling, a 1,500-meter long section of dike was recently repaired, giving protection to 3,000 hectares of land against the danger of flood. In the newly liberated Haihsu area of Namdinh province, 30,000 cubic meters of earth have been used to repair dikes which had been neglected under French rule.

In central Viet-Nam, a 20-mile long dike is being built in Nghean province. Four-fifths of the required 250,000 cubic meters of earthwork were completed by the end of May, involving half a million man days of labor. The project, when entirely completed, will allow the people in the area to concentrate on growing rice, cotton and soya beans to implement the government's 1952 production plan.

World War II which failed to break the spirit of the Malayan people.

In a resolution presented to the Colonial Office, the assembly demanded that "General Templer must be recalled immediately and steps taken to end the war in Malaya which is cruelly and unnecessarily destroying both Malayan and British lads in great numbers as well as making it more difficult to establish future friendship and trade with the Asian peoples."

US Pressure Doomed to Fail

THE August 5 announcement by the US 5th Air Force Headquarters that it would bomb 78 towns in North Korea once again demonstrated the utter bankruptcy of Washington. Despite its claim that such advance warning was dictated by "humanitarian" feelings, it was clear proof that the US, facing defeat on the battlefield and at the conference table, was turning more and more to vengeful acts of terrorism. Along with holding up the armistice talks by US recess tactics, the 5th Air Force announcement was a direct blow at world-wide demands to halt the war in Korea. Like other attempts at "military pressure," previously tried and found wanting, this measure was doomed to defeat.

On August 10 the US air force bombed one of its typical "military" targets, the North Korean capital, Pyongyang. Most heavily damaged were the residential areas.

For two and a half hours a large group of heavy bombers attacked the densely populated western and central districts. More than 500 high explosives were dropped in addition to anti-personnel and time bombs. First reports revealed that more than 1,000 civilians were killed and wounded, 676 houses and cave shelters destroyed and large tracts of cultivated land laid waste. Most of the killed and wounded were women, children and old people who were unable to take shelter in time. The areas hit were mostly inhabited by working people.

Commenting on the American intention of bombing 78 towns in North Korea, the widely-circulated London *Reynolds News*, in an editorial "Terror in Korea" said: " . . . First stages in this ghastly campaign have already begun. No one can suggest that these towns chosen as objectives for massacre on this scale are serious military objectives."

Continuing, the paper stated: "This determination to destroy the population of North Korea will be received with horror throughout the world. In India and Pakistan, Burma and

Indonesia this action in the name of the UN will stir undying hatred."

"The truce talks," the paper went on to say, "are at a standstill because 'in the name of humanity' the American negotiators refuse to hand back Chinese and North Korean prisoners . . . How can the world accept the talk of 'humanity' on the issue of prisoners when at the same time tens of thousands

Thailand Rubber Hard Hit

THE US-imposed rubber "embargo" on shipments to the Soviet Union, people's China and the Eastern European democracies is knocking the bottom out of the Thailand rubber industry.

Rubber production, one of Thailand's chief exports, expanded rapidly after VJ Day. With the US stepping up its stockpiling of strategic materials after the outbreak of the Korean war, rubber prices soared and production in Thailand shot up.

To facilitate its rubber grab in Southeast Asia, Washington forced the Songgram government to go along with its "embargo." At the same time it bludgeoned the Thai government into signing an agreement whereby Thailand is to supply the US with 125,000 tons of rubber this year at low prices. This is 80 percent of the nation's entire output.

However, since the Southeast Asia rubber supply exceeded the US demand, Washington has reduced its Thailand purchases and has forced prices down. Thailand's rubber stocks are piling up without any market in sight. Prices have dropped by two-thirds in the past year. It is becoming ever more difficult to cover production costs and plantation after plantation has stopped tapping. Result is the closing of many processing plants and tens of thousands of workers face unemployment.

Despite demands by management and labor of rubber enterprises, the Songgram government has refused to sell to China, the Soviet Union and the Eastern European democracies. Against the best interests of the Thai people, the US-sponsored "embargo" is still being carried out.

of men, women and children are threatened with a rain of bombs and napalm? Public opinion must find a way to end this ghastly tragedy of Korea."

Japanese Labor Veers Left

ORGANIZED labor has dealt Japanese reaction and its US masters a harsh blow. Delegates of some 3,000,000 members of the General Council of Japanese Trade Unions, at the council's Third Congress, have approved a draft program which opposes rearmament, the separate "peace treaty" and the US security pact.

Also approved in the draft program by the General Trade Union Council was the necessity to combat the danger of war-provoking actions; to struggle against the granting of military bases on Japanese soil to the Americans; to fight for national independence and independent foreign trade, including trade with new China; to fight against repressive legislation and the onslaught of big business on the rights of working people and for the establishment of a minimum wage. The council also stated that organized labor should not support any candidate in the coming election who does not fight against Japan's rearmament and any attempt to turn the country into an American military area.

The General Council is Japan's largest body of organized labor. Together with the railway workers and coal miners, it represents virtually the entire organized labor movement, numbering about 5,500,000 workers.

* * *

THE need for Japan to trade with China becomes increasingly apparent. However, US pressure has continuously counteracted the growing demand of Japanese business to open up trade relations with new China. The sorry condition of Japan's economy has produced a dangerous situation in which the problem of exports always remains a vital factor; one of the chief reasons for this is that Japan does not possess any markets in China, which was previously a source of raw materials and food, and an outlet for Japanese goods.

Press agency dispatches give the story regarding Japanese desire to trade with new China.

"Japanese business circles believe that only a resumption of trade with Red China may bring the commercial balance to the black side of the ledger. This is also the belief of the Ministry of Foreign Trade which has just published a White Paper to prove it. . . . This will be the subject of the negotiations in Washington. . . ." (*Agence France Presse*, Tokyo, July 25).

"The five-powered export control policy conference today agreed, at its first meeting here, to limit discussion to the organizational problem of fitting Japan into existing international controls on trade with Communist countries. Representatives of the US, Britain, France, Canada and Japan met for 75 minutes at the State Department. Their decision cut the ground from under hopes expressed earlier of obtaining agreement on softening of controls on specific non-strategic exports to Communist China." (*UP*, Washington, July 28).

Japanese officials and industrial circles (*AFP*, Tokyo, August 13), who have been searching "for a way out from what appeared to be an economic blind alley, have gradually rallied around the idea of cutting open a trade route to Communist countries, notably Communist China."

However, the same dispatch reported that America was piling war contracts on Japan to halt the move for trade with new China. "The revised American economic policy vis-a-vis Japan would be to create a sort of 'war boom' within Japan as an antidote to quell her craze for trade with the Communist world . . . "

Australian Uranium for US

AUSTRALIA'S growing importance in the schemes of Washington's atom bomb makers was evidenced by the Menzies-US uranium deal last spring. Rich uranium deposits "down under" have speeded up plans for America to supply capital and equipment to "develop" Australian fields. In return, Washington will be able to buy the uranium thus produced, according to Prime Minister Menzies.

The Australian News-Review, commenting on the uranium sell-out in a recent issue, said that after "Uranium Day, March 24, the papers told us our discoveries of uranium placed us as high as third among the world's uranium possessors. First comes Canada, which retains control of its own (and, politically, often talks back to Washington). Next comes the Belgian Congo where the natives work the ores under the direction of Belgians directed by Americans. The difference between us and the Belgian Congo is that we sold ourselves."

French Go-A-Begging

COMMENTING on the "success" of the early summer Washington visit of French High Commissioner in Indo-China Letourneau, the Viet-Nam people's radio found results of the mission a reflection of weakness on the part of both the French and the Americans. The Viet-Nam radio reported that the French by whistling in the dark were threatening the people of Viet-Nam with the American bogey and were attempting to reassure French troops and the Bao Dai puppet government who were greatly demoralized as a result of serious defeats in Indo-China.

"Letourneau's visit to Washington," the radio reported, "also revealed the fundamental weakness of these imperialist aggressors: French colonialists beaten in Viet-Nam are compelled to beg for help from the American imperialists who have received a telling blow in Korea. Official and semi-official circles in Washington were forced to admit that the American people are opposed to sending American troops to Viet-Nam . . . "

The broadcast pointed out that US politicians had to deny that American troops would be sent to Viet-Nam, saying that the US government could only share a greater part of the financial burden for the Indo-Chinese war and that if the French expeditionary corps was to be relieved, it should be by a puppet army which is to be set up.

Writing from Saigon, following the appointment of new Premier Nguyen Van Tam to carry out the French policy of "fighting the Viet-Nam army with Vietnamese people," the *NY Times* correspondent described the premier as "tough and hard driving, his methods are regarded by some as too authoritarian. (His) public career has been mostly in the police field . . . (His) son is commander of the Vietnamese Armed Forces. Thus, control of the police system, the military services and of civil power are in the hands of one family."

Report from the

Sikang-Tibetan Highlands

Lee Su-nien

THIS past summer I made a long trip through several districts of Sikang province, visiting places which before I knew only as dots on the map. While I expected to be impressed, I did not anticipate that the trip would provide the education that it did.

Here everything is on a gigantic scale and it seems that the further you go the bigger it gets. It truly staggers the imagination to contemplate what the future will bring to this rich and limitless area.

Minerals, timber, rich farm land, readily available water power—it is all here and waiting to be developed. And, with liberation, has come the chance for which the strong and industrious Tibetan people have so long waited.

Late in August we set out from Yülung, in north Sikang, on horse back. In those high altitudes, the weather was like spring; the sun shone in a clear sky and the leaves and grass were bright green. "Snow pigs," little wild creatures, busily foraged for food, beautiful white pheasants with black tails gathered by the streams, and deer were plentiful. The Tibetans were reaping grain in the golden fields, cheerfully singing their mountain ballads.

Two months later, having made a great circle through the high Sikang-Tibetan plains, we returned to Kanting, capital of the Tibetan self-governing district. We had spent 26 days traveling, and had covered about 2,500 *li* [more than 800 miles]; it is difficult to say exactly, because off the main routes distances are not measured in *li*, but simply from one horse station to the next.

Traveling toward the south, we found dense, virgin pine and fir forests, some of which took a day to cross; two men could not encircle the biggest trees with their arms. It took us two days to cross the great Maoya Plain, where more than 1,000 herdsmen tended 40,000 oxen, yaks, sheep and mules. When we commented on the vastness of the plain, the herdsmen smiled and told us that further to the north the pasture lands were even larger.

The wide grasslands, which support such large herds, could also grow vast quantities of food crops. The Gantse Plain is 3,000 meters, and the Litang Plain 4,000 meters, above sea level; the natives of the area say, "We are very near the sun." Notwithstanding the great altitude, the soil is excellent and in Gantse we saw turnips, potatoes, spinach and cabbage, which look larger and better than those grown in the lowlands. In Lihwa the wheat kernels are as big as peas and turnips have weighed as much as six kilograms.

Yakiang District, surrounded by large mountains, is bordered by the turbulent Yalung River. At the crossing stand the bare buttresses of the steel bridge built by Chao Erh-fung, a Manchu official with the aid of the French, to help his suppression of the minority tribes. But the bridge was destroyed by the people. Nearby, the footsteps of people crossing a mountain wore the path shiny; it has now been discovered that the mountain is almost solid iron. In spite of the rich land and pastures and the gold, iron, oil and other mineral resources, these highlands were always called the place of "poor people and barren earth." Now that the land has returned to the people, the pastures will never be bleak again, roads will be built, and houses, factories and schools will spring up.

In our long journey, we spent a week at a time in unhabited districts and camped in the wilds, yet we never felt lonesome; our eyes were continually delighted with new aspects of this great land, our ears filled with the sounds of nature. We saw little streams tumbling down from the heights become great rivers, deep valleys lit by the sun; and in the wildest parts, we saw postmen traveling singly through the rugged mountains, undeterred by wind, rain or snow.

We were amazed at the fat cattle, and the big sheep, whose wool was fine, white and long. The pack mules and piebald horses showed great endurance and nimbly climbed steep mountain paths. At river crossings, great quantities of tea waiting to be ferried over evidenced the newly improved economy; city merchants travel busily into the countryside, trying to keep up with the demand for salt and consumer goods.

By the side of the Golden Sand River, a Tibetan boatman, more than 70 years old, told us how the People's Liberation Army crossed the river when they went into Tibet. He told how the reactionaries had beaten, cursed and enlisted him into the army, and in a lively manner described how the PLA had drilled, made boats, and crossed the river to fight the Changtu Campaign. He praised the excellent regulations and discipline of the PLA, and told how armymen had gathered firewood for them, carried water and helped with the harvest.

In a cottage on the bank of the Yalung River, an old blind Tibetan woman, over 60, told us how her husband had become chairman of the local Soviet when the Red Army had passed by Yakiang so long ago. After the Red Army left, her husband had been killed by the reactionaries; a miserable time came for the people, but hope lived in their hearts that the Red Army would return. Now their hopes have been fulfilled.

We heard how many patriotic young men and women joined the PLA when it passed through Patang on its way to Tibet. They wanted to join

PLA units fording the Tung Tien River in Chinghai province.

the army, but feared that they might be refused. On the eve of the PLA's departure, they traveled 40 *li* at night and waited at the river crossing, figuring that the PLA would find it more difficult to refuse them.

The highroads show how well the PLA carried out its slogan of "building roads over the mountains and bridges over the rivers." They built roads over the 3,000-meter high Erhlung Mountains, over the 4,000-meter high Chedo Mountains; a steel suspension bridge now crosses the Tatu River, which the Red Army crossed long ago, swinging hand over hand along iron chains. The PLA, undismayed by any challenge, are now building roads over the 6,000-meter high Tibetan plateaus.

Since the establishment of the people's government in the Tibetan self-governing districts, much has been accomplished. The onerous "wu la" system (compulsory service of men and animals for official transport, the men furnishing their own provisions) has been abolished, schools and training courses have been set up, Tibetan government workers have been trained, and the Tibetan people's own forces, the Tibetan Corps, has been established. Medical science has cured the diseases of men and animals, and experimental tea planting and

Distances are great in the borderlands. Photo shows PLA units riding down into one of the broad prairie lands which are interspersed among the mountains in the Chinghai-Sikang-Tibetan border areas.

the introduction of new farming machinery have helped the farmers to improve their livelihood.

The government has also settled the ancient system of revengeful blood feuds. An outstanding example of reconciliation was that between Tselanglosung and Bameitsedeng, who had led their respective clans in battle against the other for 13 years; many houses were razed and many lost their lives during the feud. At the recent reconciliation meeting, the two old men affectionately helped each other mount the platform, amid the joyful cheers of the people.

The Tibetans now realize that their feuds were deliberately fostered by the imperialists to further the policy of "divide and rule." At the meeting, old (more than 70) Tselanglosung excitedly said, "While I live, I will be a man of the Mao Tse-tung Era; after I die, I will be a good spirit of the Mao Tse-tung Era!"

Now that the Tibetan people have for the first time gained their independence, their economy has begun to improve. In the past, a bundle of sheep skins brought only six packages of tea; now it brings 12 packages. The import of tea has more than doubled, and the export of local products, formerly stagnant, is now assured by the state trading company which buys up great quantities of musk, deer's antlers, bears' galls, and other products. The simplest products, such as firewood, which formerly had no value, now bring a cash return; so the people say that with the coming of the PLA and the people's government all things have become valuable.

Everywhere the Tibetans greeted us and helped us. Once we went hunting on the plain; the herdsmen set up tents for us and helped us prepare food, and the next morning they started our fire for us with a sheepskin bellows and helped us pack our things.

When we reached Sedo village in Patang, we learned that the village head was ill in bed. According to the Tibetan custom, no guests are welcomed at such a time, at this is considered bad luck.

But when the village head heard we had come, he insisted that we move to his house, no matter what the consequences. "For," he said, "the PLA is our benefactor." But we respected the local custom and declined his invitation.

We reached Patang the day after the Tibetans' harvest festival had ended. Because of Patang's exceptional climate, there are two harvests a year. Rice, wheat, vegetables and fruit are grown, as in the lowlands; the apples are especially large and sweet. The Tibetans sing the praises of Patang in their ballads, calling it "Happy Baan," and "Parkland Plateau."

Every year, after the wheat has been harvested and the second crop sown, the people dress in their best clothes, take their tents and food and camp together on the plain. Several days are filled with picnics, singing, dancing and bonfires at night. The people had not all dispersed when we arrived; they were dressed in their best and welcomed us enthusiastically, inviting us into their tents.

Two women, beautifully dressed, offered us wine to show us honor and danced for us, singing an extempore song.

The Tibetans told us how moved they were when the first PLA advance contingents came to Gantse. The armymen, who had pushed ahead of their supply columns, ate field mice and wild vegetables and slept in the open, rather than take any of their food or occupy their houses or temples.

In two months, we gave nine reports in the four districts of north Sikang. In Yakiang, people came to hear us from 90 *li* away, and in Gantse the Lama of Paili Temple told us that everyone knew well the American and British imperialists' cruel conspiracies, as the Living Buddha and member of the Southwestern Military Council was poisoned by their agents.

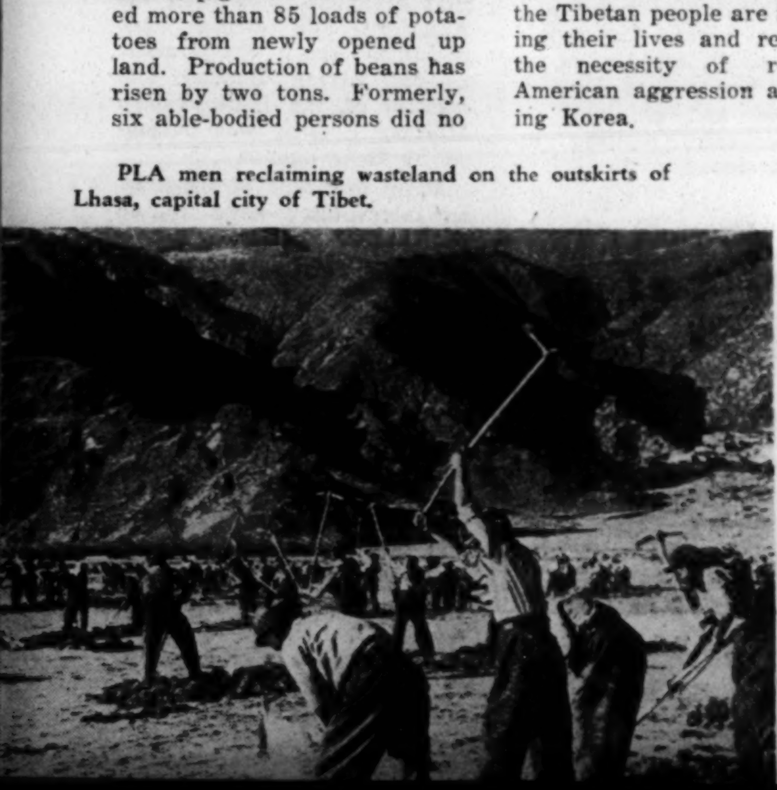
Many instances of imperialist intervention have roused the hatred of the people against American and British imperialism, so that they are determined to unite and produce more in order to support the PLA, volunteers, and Tibetan Corps. In Patang, for example, American "missionaries" instigated the militarist Yang Te-hsi to undertake an adventure, which resulted in the destruction of 68 houses and the death of seven Tibetans. As a result of such crimes, women, men, priests, shoemakers, peasants — all the Tibetan people—expressed to us their hatred of aggression and their determination to aid the defense of Korea and China in practical ways.

Everywhere, we found that the people had drawn up and are fulfilling patriotic compacts to increase production and contribute to defense.

These agreements have a wide scope and important results. In Yakiang, a village of only 300 in a narrow valley, the people formerly kept 60 pigs. Since the villagers drew up a compact, they have more than doubled the number of pigs and have harvested more than 85 loads of potatoes from newly opened up land. Production of beans has risen by two tons. Formerly, six able-bodied persons did no work, but now they engage in productive labor. Eight families have begun to use fertilizer on their fields, and the formerly filthy streets are clean. These improvements are the result of the compact, which the people drew up according to village conditions and which also included pledges for better personal sanitary habits.

These things may seem trivial when compared with the great construction projects being carried out in the country as a whole; but the big projects are based upon just such small-scale improvements in productive capacity. It is thus that with new knowledge the Tibetan people are improving their lives and recognize the necessity of resisting American aggression and aiding Korea.

PLA men reclaiming wasteland on the outskirts of Lhasa, capital city of Tibet.



FOR the workers in the far border districts, conditions are very difficult. The Sikang-Tibetan area is vast, thinly populated, and its agriculture is relatively backward. Our government workers there eat poor food, and to fulfill their task of serving the people they must travel long distances over high mountains, some villages being 10 days' journey from the administrative town.

In Paiyü village, for example, besides a great Lama temple, we found few dwellings and no market. I asked a young government worker there if he didn't feel lonely. He firmly replied, "To unite with the people is to banish loneliness." All the workers know that present difficulties and hardships are temporary and that the area has a magnificent future.

When the government workers arrived, conditions were much worse and many felt low-spirited and miserable. As a result of the old "Great Hanism" policy and the rumors and splitting activities of the imperialist agents, a deep gulf existed between Tibetans and Hans. So in the beginning the Tibetans fled from the newcomers. However, after persistent and patient efforts, government workers established friendly relations.

After the Tibetans recognized that these were a different type of Han official, they called them "Chaseba," or "The New Han." The Han-Tibetan relationship has entered a new historical phase. In the era of new China, through the unity of the Tibetans, Han and all peace-loving peoples of the world in resistance to aggression and striving for world peace, these bleak mountains and high plateaus of Tibet will see roads, towns and factories, and a prosperous and happy life for the Tibetan people.

RHEE DEMOCRACY AT WORK

> ". . . the only presidential candidate who openly attacked Mr. Rhee during the campaign apparently had gone into hiding. Cho Bong Am . . . had not returned to his home or to his National Assembly office. He had polled 800,000 votes, the largest of any single losing candidate. His secretary said, 'Evidently he feels it is safer to stay away.'" (*UP* dispatch from Seoul on August 8 following Syngman Rhee's election "victory" in South Korea).

PUMC EXHIBITION

THE story of the former Rockefeller-run Peking Union Medical College (PUMC), which appeared in your September issue, could be expanded into a valuable book if all the evidence on the exhibit recently held in Tientsin were written up.

It would show among other things how these wealthy foundations carry on their "good works" to give themselves a stronger monopoly hold in less developed countries.

There is documentary correspondence from 1914 when Rockefeller was being interested in putting money into such a project, and included was an impressive list of directors for PUMC, representing Metropolitan Life, Standard Vacuum, railway magnates and so on. In 1950 John Foster Dulles took over as head of the Rockefeller Foundation Board.

Technical standards should be high, the correspondence says, so that graduates would be in great demand in governmental institutions. That the founders' interest was not in furthering public health in China is documented by correspondence in which consideration is given to substituting an agricultural or other program. The idea was dropped however because, as they said, "Rockefeller's name is commonly connected with medical projects."

A rather blunt statement of the Rockefeller Foundation's role in China was revealed in a letter by a State Department investigator, Roger Sherman Greene, to Dr. John B. Grant, head of PUMC's Department of Public Health. He wrote in 1931: "To my mind, it is conceivable that a million dollars spent in supporting the universities would bring more real political strength to the government than twice that sum spent for the maintenance of a military force which might easily become disloyal at any moment."

In 1946 the foundation sent a commission to investigate the results of the money they had put into PUMC. The commission reported, "With only 500 graduates (350 doctors and 178 nurses) and some 3,000 who have done post-graduate study, its influence in the history of Chinese medicine is remarkable." This is "through the work of its best graduates who are in great demand for service in the most important government and private institutions in China."

And as further correspondence shows, many of these graduates had influential connections in the Kuomintang right up to the top, giving the Rockefeller Foundation and its associates all the influence they had dreamed about in 1914.

To further the "American way of life" in China, English was the only acceptable language at PUMC. One record shows that of 29 candidates for nursing school all but 11 were eliminated, mostly for English deficiency. On patients' records and all reports even Chinese terms are spelled out in English.

There's a letter from Eli Lilly thanking the PUMC pharmacist, Reed, for selling out the Chinese grass "mahuang" from which ephedrine is produced. In quick succession other drug houses such as Burroughs - Wellcombe, Parke-Davis, etc. followed up on this.

The "Workers' Regulations" formulated by Elizabeth Hurst are fit for a curio shop. Imagine this: "Workers go off duty with hands down." Punishment for eating garlic, leek, etc. is docking a day's pay. Men workers may go to the toilet no more than twice in the morning and twice in the afternoon, each time no longer than five to 12 minutes. No smoking, eating or talking except about the work to be done on pain of docking a day's pay. Sewing amahs may go to toilet at 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. and no other time. Women nurses to be employed only on condition they promise not to marry until after their contract expired.

As a dietician, I was particularly interested in the experiments of physiological chemist William Adolph who did a lot of writing on "nutrition." He said that famines made people available en masse as experimental subjects. He used these victims to see how little a human being had to eat to stay alive. Then he made them exercise and work and noted how rapidly they became emaciated. All this he notes down in a big book he published.

Strangely enough the "nutrition" texts published in Chinese advocate the use of white rice and white flour, which their experiments proved as the cause of the debilitating beri-beri. What science!

BETTY CHANDLER CHANG

Tientsin

Letter from Kunming

Chang Shu-I

A WALK through the streets of Kunming is a constant reminder of the many changes which have taken place in this capital of Yunnan province since liberation. No longer the stronghold of feudal landlords, grasping Kuomintang officials and a handful of haughty foreigners, Kunming is fast becoming a new city.

The main thoroughfares have been resurfaced from one end to the other and the buses running smoothly over them no longer leave great clouds of dust in their wake. Streets and narrow alleys have been repaired and are adequately lit at night for the first time. On summer nights it is a common sight to see children dancing the *yangko* and practicing singing under the lights.

The New Market Square has been thoroughly renovated. In the old days the rainy season turned it into a filthy swamp, bringing all business to a halt. Last autumn all this was ended as a result of a proper construction job, and business is now carried on here all year around. Many new shops have opened.

It is difficult for people to imagine the extent to which public works were run down under the KMT policy of doing nothing. Like every other city in new China, the contrast between new and old Kunming is like day and night. A letter to a newspaper from a girl worker in a cotton mill commenting on the construction of public lavatories throughout the city speaks volumes: "In the KMT days, there was not even a little corner for us girls to answer nature's call and we often stayed home unless it was absolutely necessary to go out. The people's government is really doing its level best for the people . . . "

Last October, the Kunming People's Hospital and the Workers' Hospital opened their doors to the city's workers. At the same time there has been a great deal of construction work on dormitories and athletic grounds for workers. The city government is planning to build a large workers' sanitorium on the lakeside at the foot of the Western Hills.

As a service to the public the Kunming broadcasting station has installed loud speakers throughout the city so that the people can listen to daily programs. Broadcasting time has been lengthened and local Yunnan dialect, which is common among the majority of Kunming's residents, is often used. Early every morning workers and students can be seen doing their "daily dozen," to the accompaniment of music provided over the radio station's loudspeaker system. Late in the afternoon there is a broadcast of popular songs. Everyone pays close attention and peddlers and shoe-shine boys are great devotees of this program.

In the old days only high officials and foreigners, mostly missionaries, were privileged to visit the radio station. Now, cultural workers, students, army men, and national minority groups from the nearby mountain regions often give special programs over the air.

* * *

ONE of new China's most precious elements is its children, and great emphasis is placed on their care and bringing up. Particular care is being given to the children of the one-time French Catholic orphanage here which was taken over by the government last December after it was discovered that hundreds of orphans had died over a number of years as a result of improper food, poor sanitary conditions and harsh treatment.

At the time of its take-over, government workers found that half the orphans (about 35) were undernourished and suffering from respiratory diseases. A clinic was immediately set up to handle these sick and emaciated children.

Their diet consists of pork and beef, eggs, milk and fruit, all unheard of before.

When the sisters ran the orphanage the inmates, whose ages ranged from eight to 18, slept in a gloomy room with broken windows and peeling walls. Many had to double up as there were not enough beds. Today, they have moved upstairs to the well appointed and ventilated rooms formerly reserved for the sisters. Each child now has a bed of his own. Before they used to have to clean up

for the sisters and do their laundry. Now, attendants do the children's laundry.

The sisters kept the children completely cut off from the outside world. Most of them didn't even know their full names or what country they lived in. Their only reading material was the Bible, and French was the language to be used when talking to the sisters.

The net result of this "training" was to turn out a group of eccentric and timid children. In the first phase of the take-over, the children would generally run away from any stranger. When they were first taken outside they would become frightened by such things as an auto or a horse. All this has changed and today's visitor to the orphanage is immediately surrounded by inquisitive children.

Regimentation is a word carelessly flung around by the enemies of new China, the ones whose own regimentation tried to make Chinese children into narrow-minded, frightened replicas of themselves. Despite all the fine phrases of the masters of the orphanage, the place reeked of imperialism and colonial ideas. Children's minds are pliable and the self-imposed molders of these minds, who would only speak in a foreign language, were agents of imperialism no matter what their garb.

* * *

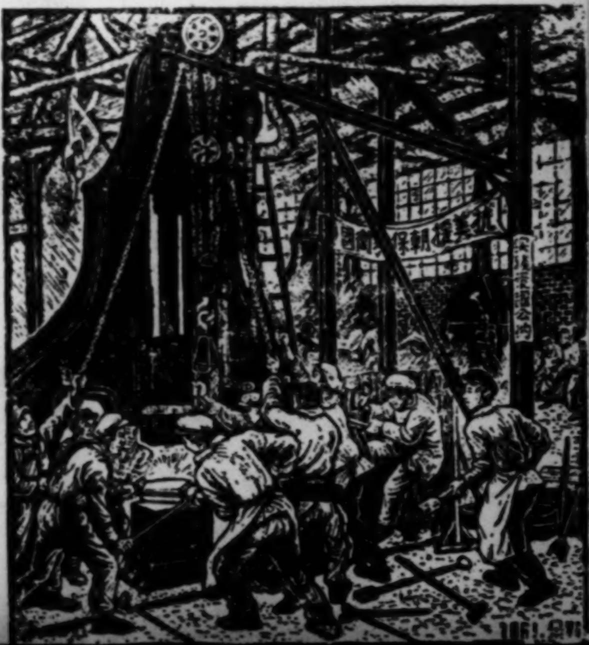
DOONG Fu-sheng is a worker who has become a plant manager. While he is only one of the many factory workers who have spurred the nationwide production drive, his story has served to stir the workers of Kunming.

Doong's group in the Kunming Electrical Works, since March 1951, has come up with 24 innovations which have improved the factory's reverberatory furnace installation. Up to mid-1952 the group had succeeded in breaking 11 records and increasing production to twice that of pre-liberation days. Time for firing each furnace has been cut on the average from 50 to 20 hours. However, Doong's principal achievement took place when he led his group in repairing a furnace with the temperature at 1,300 degrees Centigrade.

In April 1951, at the height of the nation-wide anti-US aggression, aid Korea movement, the firebricks in the No. 1 furnace in the forge became loose. In order to keep on forging, Doong's group pledged to carry out repair work at once. The men worked out a method of applying firebrick powder while the furnace was in operation. Despite the high temperature of the furnace, Doong, as group leader, climbed on top, set up the scaffolding and began replacing the fallen bricks. Hardly had he installed two or three than the scaffolding board began to burn. The temperature was so intense that it affected even those who were passing the bricks up to him.

As soon as these repairs had been made the firebricks in the mouth of the furnace became loose and the furnace began spouting flames. Once again Doong's group went to work. Equipped with special gloves made of hemp and rubber and saturated with water, Doong and two members of his group dipped into the 1,300 degree heat of the furnace and made repairs. They were only able to keep their hands inside in intervals of a few seconds. Time and again their gloves caught fire and had to be dipped into cold water. Working this way for nearly 20 minutes, the job was finally carried out successfully and all the loose firebricks were repaired. Not only was the immediate danger to the furnace eliminated but the life of the furnace was prolonged by the repair job.

In 1951, on May Day, Doong



was elected a labor hero by his factory. In August he was elected representative to the city council and last October 1, representing the workers of Yunnan, Doong attended the National Day celebration in Peking. When he returned from the capital he was appointed chief director of the workshop, and this year he was made sub-manager of the factory.

Doong Fu-sheng's accomplishments as leader of his factory group have won him a place in the hearts of Kunming's workers. He is an example of new China's workers who know that for the first time they have a real stake in production.

* * *

LIKE the workers in the city, Kunming's suburban farmers — and, for that matter farmers throughout the province—have begun the job of remaking nature.

Both drought and flood will be unknown, and a considerable area of formerly unirrigated fields have been supplied with water. The people's government furnished the leadership and the "know how" for the work, and much of it was made possible by loans from the People's Bank.

After the peasants received their own land in the land reform movement, their productive energy and enthusiasm has increased markedly.

They still had many superstitious beliefs and practices to overcome, however. Semi-arid upland plots had always been called "God's Fields," and they were left to be watered as the whim of heaven directed. But during the struggle against feudalism, the peasants learned that the real cause of their poverty was landlord exploitation, not the animosity of spirits. Therefore, they have rid themselves of the idea of depending upon the gods for a living, and are turning semi-arid land into irrigated rice fields.

Virtually the whole peasant population took part in some phase of the various conservancy construction tasks, with the attitude that they have become their own masters and such work is for the benefit of all.

In Chu Ching, a 70-year-old woman participated in the work of repairing the river embankment. "For the first time in my life," she said, "I have seen a good government. Although I'm too old to have much benefit from this work, still I'm working for the good of the coming generation."

SZECHUEN CHRISTIANS BUILD A NEW CHURCH

CHANG JEN-KAI

NINETEEN fifty-one marked a new epoch in the Protestant churches in Szechuen province. Having ended their dependence on foreign subsidies, Szechuen's Chinese Christians now carry on all church work on a self-supporting basis. They have exposed and eliminated the imperialist influences which controlled their churches.

The Chinese Christians in Szechuen desired to build an indigenous church nearly two decades ago, and their desire was highlighted in a "five-year movement" which aimed at gradually putting the church into the hands of their Chinese members for administration. But under the suppression of foreign missionaries who worked with reactionary Chinese officials and landlords all their efforts were in vain. During the past 20 years, the foreign missionaries dominated all the churches in Szechuen.

After liberation, a real indigenous church came into being. In early 1951, a Three-Self (self-governing, self-supporting and self-propagation) Reform Movement started in Szechuen and practically all the church organizations in the province signed the Protestant Reform Manifesto. Many churches held accusation meetings at which the reactionary activities of agents and spokesmen for imperialism who hid under the cloak of religion were exposed.

For instance, the Bishop of the Methodist Church in Chengtu, Chen Wen-yuan was devotional advisor to Chiang Kai-shek, and at one time was dean of the Kuomintang's Youth League in Wuhan and a delegate to the National Representatives' Conference in Nanking, the Kuomintang's capital. Under his religious

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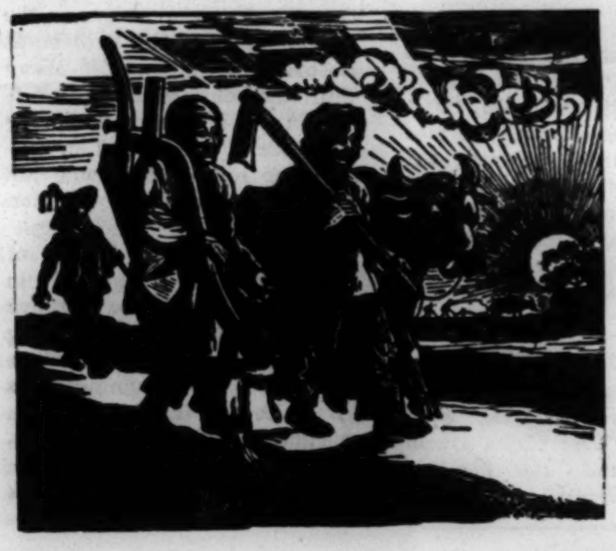
guise, he was active in espionage activities.

During the reform movement, a part of the church members came forward to make a clean breast of their unhealthy attitude toward Christianity. For instance, some Christians admitted that originally their chief motive in becoming a Christian was to get acquainted with some foreign missionaries, hoping that with their recommendations they might get a good job in some mission institution. Practically all the Chinese Christians in Szechuen pledged to eradicate the remnants of imperialistic influence on their thinking.

One of the chief changes in Szechuen's churches since liberation has been the elimination of the narrow secretarianism of church members of different denominations, which was fostered before by the foreign missionaries in order to facilitate their control. Although the six different Protestant denominations, namely, China Inland Mission, Church of Christ in China, Anglican Church, Baptist Church, Methodist Church and Friends' House, still continue as independent institutions in Szechuen, a new, cooperative and friendly atmosphere prevails.

Having realized the importance of unity, for instance, the members of the China Inland Mission and the Baptist Church in the city of Ipin now worship together. When the churches were in the hands of missionaries the members of these two churches could never have held joint services. In some other cities like Luchow



Off to the fields.

and Kiating, the Christians have even organized a religious union which takes in all church members irrespective of their denominations.

With their constant study on current affairs, the political understanding of Szechuen's Christians has risen to a new high. They are sharing in the general surge of patriotism, and participating in all the patriotic activities, such as the Resist America and Aid Korea movement, the drive for donating heavy equipment to the People's Volunteers in Korea, etc. During the donation campaign, the biggest donator was the Church of Christ in China in Chengtu which contributed ¥100,000,000 in cash.

To help the government uproot the centuries-old feudal land system, nearly all Christian leaders, students and religious workers in Szechuen took part in land reform.

The US bacteriological warfare has further awakened the Chinese Christians in Szechuen. In March of this year, the Christians in Chengtu, capital of Szechuen, held a meeting in the church of Shu Wa Kai and passed a resolution strongly protesting America's latest inhuman crime. In addition, they made a further great contribution to the volunteers, including cash, gold, silver dollars and other valuable articles.

Szechuen's Protestant churches have drawn up their patriotic compacts. Generally the compacts include six main points:

1) To sever their relationship with imperialism, wipe out the final trace of imperialistic influences and successfully carry out the Three-Self Reform Movement;

2) To eradicate the thought of blindly worshipping America, spread the true spirit of Christianity and render real service to the people;

3) To respond to every call of the people and participate in all patriotic campaigns;

4) To help the people in the task of suppressing counter-revolutionaries;

5) To give full support of the government's various policies, such as land reform, etc;

6) To support the Stockholm Peace Appeal and take an active part in the movement for world peace.

Today, like many other places in the country, all the churches in Szechuen display the national flag either inside or outside the church buildings. This change, though small, is of high significance, because such a thing could never have taken place in the past when the church was dominated by the foreign missionaries who, while themselves supporting—wittingly or unwittingly—the political status

Sorge is supposed to have been intensely loyal to his dying day. This confession is completely inconsistent with the kind of astute, disciplined person the Major-General describes.

That Willoughby cites reports from the notorious Japanese secret police as authoritative evidence hardly raises the prestige of the author in most readers' eyes, for the American people, including the Major-General himself, are not unaware of the way the Japanese police went about securing "confessions" from those unfortunates who became their prisoners.

The reader gets the impression that the author collected a few bits of information and then proceeded to weave a tale of fiction to frighten the American public.

This atmosphere of fiction is heightened by the technique, all too prevalently used when the goal is to incite hysteria, of giving inaccurate details and dates which cannot be verified by most of the readers, of slandering the good name of persons who are in no position to reply, of casting slurs on others in no way connected with the tale, of resorting to insinuation to undermine verifiable data, of using the "guilt by association" technique.

THE timing of the publication of "Shanghai Conspiracy" is not without significance. From the record in the book itself (page 124), the reader learns that seven members of the so-called spy ring died in 1944 and 1945 — and Agnes Smedley, another victim of the spy accusation, died in 1950. These victims cannot possibly rise to defend their character and their loyalty. In fact, Miss Smedley, when she was accused by the US Army in 1949 as a "Soviet spy," based on Major-General Willoughby's intelligence work in Japan, promptly denied the charge and was given clearance by the US Army.

To the thoughtful reader it quickly becomes apparent that "Shanghai Conspiracy" was published at a time and for the purpose of giving a boost to the waning public support of the cold war and particularly to cause distrust of the Soviet Union. The net result, as far as this reviewer is concerned, is to turn the accusing finger on the US instead.

A final note about the author. Born a German aristocrat, the son of a Freiherr von Tscheppe-Weidenbach, Willoughby became naturalized at the age of 10 when he took his mother's name. He served as General MacArthur's Chief of Intelligence from 1941-51.

Report to Readers

ROBERT T. BRYAN, a long-time American resident of Shanghai who was recently deported by the authorities after doing some time in a local jail, has added his bit to the already extensive mythology of new China being built up so assiduously by the Western press. Beginning as a brief statement to reporters upon his arrival in Hongkong, it has grown in the course of several more interviews in Hongkong and San Francisco until it is now close to being ready for market as a full-length fiction thriller.

Like most other foreign deportees who have been given the official boot after facing criminal charges, Bryan claims that he was as innocent as a new born babe and that the Chinese authorities are a bunch of so-and-so's.

Like most—the spies and swindlers, the counterfeiters and forgers, the blackmarketeers and smugglers (who found no difficulty in operating under Chiang Kai-shek's bribe-hungry Kuomintang and whose undoing was their own stubborn refusal to believe that a new day has dawned in this country)—Bryan repudiated all statements made to the Shanghai police. This standard procedure for American deportees usually takes place within a day or two of their arrival in Hongkong and after "consultation" with the American Consul-General.

And like the others, Bryan had a handy "explantation" of why he pleaded guilty. But it is here that Bryan separates himself from the ordinary run of foreign adventurers kicked out of China since liberation.

Arm-twistings and beatings may have worked on lesser men, Bryan informs us, but he was (we have his word for it) made of sterner stuff and so his jailers decided that something special was needed. One day, he says, they blindfolded him, threw him face down on a table and stuck a needle into his spine and pumped him full of "true word medicine." After this it was duck soup for his questioners, the "true words" just rolled out.

His performance was apparently so satisfactory that his jailers decided to try it again and, Bryan says, after a second

Report to Readers . . . .

shot he wrote a criticism of the American State Department—an assignment which, as Tom McEwen of the Vancouver *Pacific Tribune* has pointed out, should not be difficult for an intelligent man, with or without benefit of medicinal stimulants.

FOR a while we used to wonder just how far the Western press would go in giving space to such absurdities as old lawyer-of-fortune Bryan and his "true word" miracle medicine. Apparently such speculation was wasted effort from the beginning, for not only do American editors seem quite prepared to pass off fairy tales as news, but see no contradiction in running a Chinese "wonder drug" story on the same pages that on other days report that half the people of China are dying because the "Communists" are so backward that they can't even make iodine or aspirin tablets.

* * *

LAST week we stopped by the downtown Workers' Club—a big triangular building occupying an entire block—to look at the current exhibition of inventions made by Shanghai workers in recent months. While we didn't see any bottles of "true word" medicine, we did see some mighty impressive things.

The exhibits ranged from small—but often radical—improvements of tools all the way up to quite complicated inventions. There were improved wire and cable stretchers, cigarette rolling machines, an ingenious system for handling deep sea fishing nets, a method for prolonging the life of grain milling rollers several times, a wide variety of factory safety devices, a whole new process of preparing pigskin which makes possible its mass production at reasonable prices.

There were a number of major inventions dealing with communications, such as a radically new type of antenna which brings into question some of the current theories of wireless transmission.

One of the most impressive exhibits was of industrial pottery. China's ceramics craftsmen, long world-famous for their art objects and chinaware, have turned their attention to industry and the results are quite remarkable. The skilled hands which formerly left not a hair out of place on priceless porcelain figures, now turn out a wide range of perfectly glazed pumps, blowers, mixers and what not which are exact to the fraction of a millimeter. Such pottery "machines," many of which are quite complicated and involve a number of moving parts, have given a great boost to the chemical industry and to laboratory research where metal tools are unusable or short-lived because of their susceptibility to corrosion.

It is impossible to go through such an exhibition without gaining a new respect for the ordinary working man and woman. Some of the inventions and tool improvements were so logical and seemingly so simple that you can't help wondering why someone didn't think of them before. On second thought, you realize that the reason is that before there was no particular reason to think of such things, that it is only since liberation that the workers have acquired a vested interest in improving both the quantity and quality of their output.

Many of the inventions are based on a rather high level of theoretical knowledge and once again you can only marvel at the Chinese worker's talents which have been latent and unused for so long.

Above all, we were impressed by the obvious fact that such progress could never have been made in the old dog-eat-dog socity, that it is possible only in a new society with a new set of values, in which the working men and women have a real stake.

* * *

OUR latest copy of the *Australian News-Review* gives some interesting figures on the number of bookstores per capita in Australia, Britain and the United States. Reading this we wondered how China would rank with these highly literate Western countries. Figures for the whole country not being readily available, we had to settle for Shanghai which, as the nation's largest metropolitan area, may be above average although the situation here will be pretty much reflected throughout the country.

In Australia there is one bookstore to every 14,000 inhabitants, in Britain one to every 30,000 and in the United States the average is one to every 160,000 people. Shanghai has 340 major bookstores which works out to approximately one for every 16,000 people. Even if we figure that Shanghai is twice as well off for bookstores as the rest of the country, which it probably isn't on the average, China would still rank somewhere in the neighborhood of Britain.

Report to Readers . . . .

This is rather remarkable when one considers that for as long as most people can remember China has regularly been pretty close to the bottom on lists of such things as books published, libraries and schools established, etc. This jump from the bottom into the higher brackets has been accomplished in no more than three years and is another of the "miracles" which so many of China's old-timers often speak of.

But this is only part of the story. In addition to the regular bookstores, there is a huge network of traveling bookstores and libraries, newspaper reading circles and study groups which covers the country from one end to the other, penetrating into every little backwoods village and into every narrow city lane or alleyway.

No matter where you turn, there is evidence that China is experiencing a real cultural renaissance comparable to nothing in its past history. It can be seen daily in the crowded bookstores, in the people lining up for an hour before Shanghai's new 900,000-volume national library opens in the mornings, in the inevitable fountain pen and pocket notebook which even farmers and workers are carrying these days. Three years ago some 80 percent of the populace was illiterate and largely uninformed. Today all are informed and tomorrow all will be literate.

* * *

OUR last bit of "intelligence" is that the *Review's* two-man-and-one-woman editorial staff is going on vacation. For nearly four years we've skipped the vacation season since with all three of us on deck we still find it well nigh impossible to keep up with things.

We've finally decided that the only way "us irreplacables" can be replaced is to shut up shop for a month, so your next *Review* will be a combined November-December issue.

Our vacation plans have not even reached the seashore-versus-mountains stage yet, since we estimate that it will take about two more weeks to answer all the long-unanswered mail, go through the half-finished articles lying on the editors' desks and once again resolve firmly to get to work on them "tomorrow" and, finally, to start the lino men to work on the November-December issue, which will be somewhat fatter than usual.

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BOUND VOLUMES

A limited number of bound volumes of the China Monthly Review—Volume 120-121 January to December 1951—are now available at ¥75,000 delivered within China and US$4.25 for abroad per volume. Bound volumes for the second half of 1951—Vol. 121, are available separately at ¥40,000 for delivery in China and US$2.25 for delivery abroad. Each volume is indexed by subject.

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CHINA MONTHLY REVIEW

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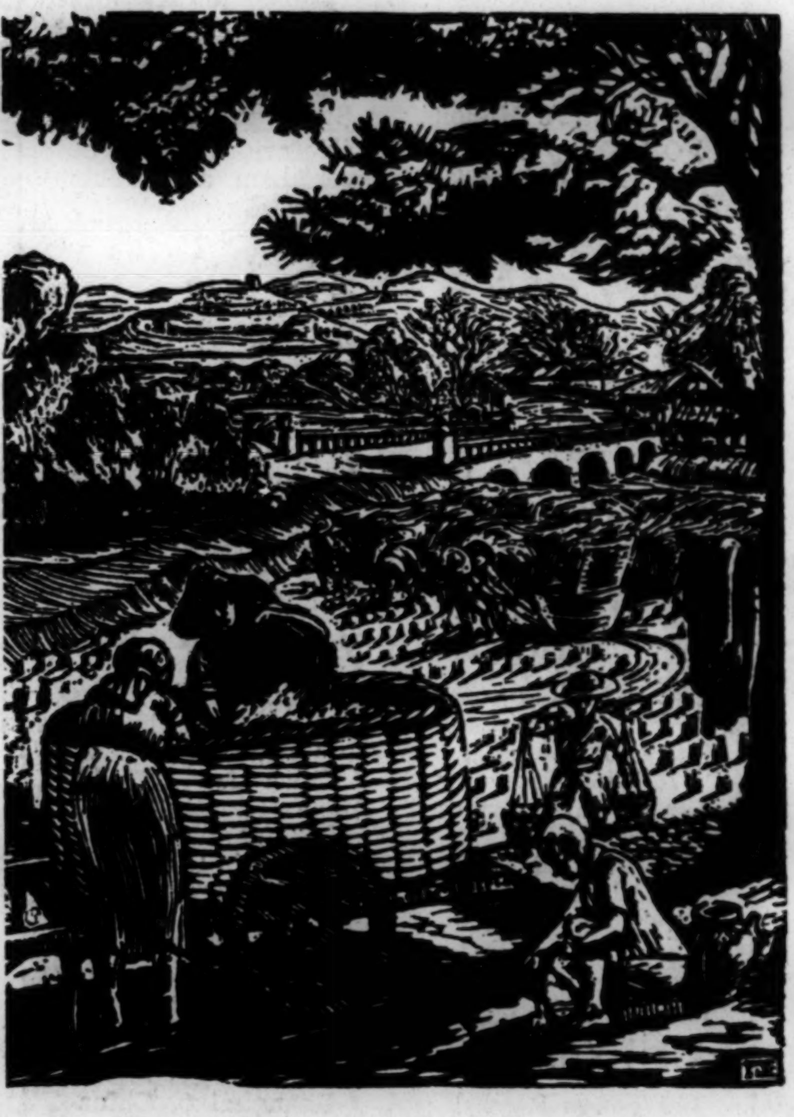

Harvest in Szechuen, a woodcut by Ting Cheng-hsien

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